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INF 'Postnuclear World' Prospects Viewed

PM1805120588 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
17 May 88 Morning Edition p 5

[Article by Yu. Zhilin under the "On the Path to a Nuclear-Free World" rubric: "Not Yet Known but Already Predicted..."—boldface as published]

[Text] The course of matters in international politics is increasingly becoming a race where yesterday's events have not yet been completed and tomorrow's are already settling on top of today's. Time is compressing problems of different orders. Practical embarkation on the implementation of the Treaty between the USSR and the United States on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles has not yet begun, yet the attention of public opinion is already switching to judgments on the possible prospects of attaining a larger goal—a radical reduction of strategic offensive armaments under the conditions of the observance of the ABM Treaty.

And that in general is natural. Especially as the importance of the first step depends largely on whether there is a second and third step and what they will be. Will the breakthrough zone be extended in the direction of the reduction and easing of military-political confrontation between the two largest nuclear powers? Will a pause ensue in the disarmament process? Or will a regression begin in which the ending of the arms race on one salient will be "compensated" by stepping it up on other salients? (Such plans are being nurtured, and that includes in some West European capitals.)

We should scarcely rush to give answers to these questions: Life itself will provide them very soon. This does not mean, however, that it is better to refrain from making forecasts. Imagination is no obstacle to politics if it is based on existing objective tendencies.

Of course, elementary political caution curbs attempts at forecasting which go too far and restrains even mental anticipation and the leapfrogging of a stage like the as yet unaccomplished act of ratification of the Soviet-U.S. treaty under discussion. We are inspired by an understanding of the fact that those who might venture to wreck it would bear too high a measure of responsibility to the whole world. Yet at the same time an elementary requirement of human consciousness quite rightly draws us to anticipate, at least in the most general outlines, where we are coming from and where we are going and to lift the corner of the curtain on tomorrow, especially when it has been programmed by documents signed by the leaders of the biggest powers.

It is from this viewpoint that I want to present several of the consequences of the implementation of the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles as such, irrespective of the course of other events. It would seem that everything has already been said about this. But I think there is still scope for thought....

For the first time in the slightly more than 4 decades that nuclear weapons have existed we can see with our own eyes the practice of their destruction. For the first time it is not particular units or hundreds of units but two entire types, two classes, of weapons which are being destroyed.

For the first time in history weapons are being destroyed not because they have become obsolete, not because they have been used and lost their necessary qualities for further use, not because other weapons have been used against them and put them out of commission, and not because the danger of war has disappeared. In previous historical experience it is possible to find examples of the elimination of weapons for "motives" of this kind. Now we will be dealing with something essentially new. Weapons will be destroyed precisely because they are not obsolete, precisely because they act as one of the factors of the danger of war.

The forthcoming act of the elimination of intermediate- and shorter-range missiles is an unprecedented expression of general human consciousness, of its instinct for self-preservation irrespective of the pragmatic considerations of one or the other of the sides which have signed it. It is an expression of political will inspired by common sense, farsightedness, and resolve.

Political realism demands that we should not lose contact with some quantitative indicators which are at first glance modest but at second glance important. It seems, however, that of themselves they produce little.

It may be said that mankind will be ridding itself of only 4 percent of nuclear weapons. And that will be true. It may be said that this is nonetheless a mass of weapons quite sufficient to destroy everything that lives on earth. And that will also be true.

But both viewpoints focus attention merely on the ultimate **material result** of the process of eliminating intermediate- and shorter-range nuclear missile weapons. However, it seems to me that the political consequences which will be generated **by this process itself** are at least as important.

Between the elimination of intermediate- and shorter-range missiles as a goal and their elimination as a real process which will happen any day now there runs a historical period of something quite unknown to historical practice. They say that "there is nothing new under the sun," but this axiom is refuted by the realities of the nuclear age and by the expected realities of advance into something as yet unknown—a nuclear-free world.

Changes in the content of military arsenals cannot fail to affect the content of political thinking. The reduction of the quantity of weapons will not simply lend impetus to the hope of advancing toward a secure world but will also provide additional acceleration and, if you like, a work load for common sense, reason, and rationality with regard to the sphere of interstate communication.

If the decision on the elimination of two classes of nuclear missile weapons is a product of the new thinking, then the process of their elimination will inevitably become its catalyst. The new situation itself will act as a stimulus to some unusual world view and attitude.

Let's begin with the fact that a new "production facility" will emerge—for the destruction of destructive forces. Read the lines of businesslike sparseness contained in the protocols on procedures regulating the elimination of nuclear systems and on the inspections envisaged in this connection and give rein to your living imagination: How will all this take place? Detonation or combustion will be used as methods of eliminating the missiles. For an agreed number of intermediate-range missiles there is also the launch method. The casing of the missile nose cones will be crushed while the nuclear charge will be salvaged. Launchers and support equipment will be reduced to a state making them unsuitable for use as combat equipment. Former mobile launchers (tow trucks) may be used in the national economy.

A dry enumeration of measures... But you cannot rid yourself of the feeling that behind the outlined technological and organizational simplicity or accessibility of the projected steps, in their very progress, in the nature of their internal motivation and orientation, in their inspiration, so to speak, with the supreme values of all mankind and their subordination to interests of a supreme order, it is possible to discern something still unknown, to hear a new word in the very course of the history of the world community which heralds our entry into some different phase of both social practice and interstate communication.

But from the political viewpoint it is not these pictures of the "battle against weapons," but the coordinated measures ensuring the effectiveness of verification of the treaty's observance which are even more impressive. An important place is allocated to national technical means. But there is also provision for on-site inspections on the territories of the USSR and the United States and on the territories of the countries where the missiles to be eliminated are deployed: the GDR and the CSSR on the one hand and the FRG, Britain, Italy, Belgium, and the Netherlands on the other. But the gigantic geographical scale is far from being the most impressive thing. The main thing is the specific and unprecedented thrust of the accords.

Various types of inspections are envisaged—to check on initial data, to confirm the elimination of missile operating bases and missile support facilities; inspections of the nonproduction of missiles at producing plants—through continuous observation of the portals to ensure that there are no missiles being produced; on-site inspections of the elimination of intermediate- and shorter-range missiles and the launchers and support equipment for them. Finally, for 13 years inspections can be carried out on a quota basis at all missile operating bases and missile support facilities. For the first 3 years after the treaty enters into force the USSR and the United States have the right to conduct 20 such inspections a year each, and 15 and 10 inspections each respectively for the first and second 5-year periods after that.... Corresponding provision has been made for the procedures for sending notification of the intention to carry out inspections, the sides' commitments, the procedure for using verification apparatus, rules for carrying out inspections, and so forth.

The volume and depth of mutual monitoring and verification and the standards of openness and glasnost are unprecedented. Is this not an absolutely new situation? Undoubtedly! But what does it involve?

A new typology for interstate and at the same time human communication. After all, mutual inspections will be carried out not simply by apparatuses but by living people who previously did not even enter into contact.

An article by Peter Greer published in THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR in late March speaks in particular of the new post in Washington called "arms control inspector." "To hold this post," the author notes, "a knowledge of missile technology, the ability to speak Russian, and the readiness to observe the plant in Votkinsk in the USSR are needed." An absolutely new Pentagon department is being created—the on-site inspection directorate. According to the article's author, the army of inspectors will consist of about 250 people. "The volume of work will be sufficiently great and will require almost daily flights by U.S. inspectors—to entry points authorized under the treaty.... Even after the elimination of the missiles has been completed, the U.S. inspectors may fly to the USSR and demand inspections at any of about 75 listed missile facilities."

Similar rights are naturally provided for the Soviet side.

The emergence of vexed problems and particular irregularities or misunderstandings and on their soil—who knows?—diplomatic notes and propaganda battles are possible. The blueprint needs to be embodied in a mechanism, and the mechanism will require tuning. Whether or not there will be any stoppages of any kind in this mechanism it is pointless to surmise right now. But it remains a fact that something absolutely unknown is being introduced to the actual political structures of interstate statutes. And these mechanisms generated by the desire to acquire guarantees against deception or, to be frank, by suspicion and vigilance can result in the materialization of trust, creating a broad screen of translucence in one sector of the sensitive sphere that is the major powers' national security. With their own function and their own purpose, the new verification mechanisms may serve as a kind of political laboratory for creating even broader mechanisms encompassing disarmament processes for which there are as yet no accords.

Can this openness envisaged by the treaty on intermediate- and shorter-range missiles fail to influence the actual climate of mutual relations between countries? It would be very hard to imagine that. We do not know and cannot know all the fluctuations in the political temperature as a result of introducing the arms verification system, but we can make a forecast: The atmosphere cannot fail to change. And it may be said with great justification that it will change substantially for the better.

The "double zero" with regard to intermediate- and shorter-range nuclear missiles leads to the consideration of an absolute zero for all nuclear weapons. The treaty on intermediate- and shorter-range missiles which has been signed figures in political practice, in addition to everything else, as practical proof of the possibility and feasibility of achieving a nuclear-free world. It may seem open to dispute. On the surface there is a counterargument: The destruction of a proportion of nuclear weapons and the destruction of all nuclear weapons are not one and the same. Moreover, the actual difference is not so much quantitative as qualitative. The building of a nuclear-free world will undoubtedly be a leap from one state of international being to another and the present state does not yet include all the necessary prerequisites for considering the transition to the other state of being as assured.

All that is so. But let's take a closer look at the problem.

There is no denying that on the path to a nuclear-free world there are many obstacles and barriers, but they are mainly of a political nature and can therefore be overcome by political means. And it is here that it is important to emphasize the following fact: The elimination, under strict international control, of at least a proportion of nuclear weapons is not simply the act of the destruction of the means of mass destruction, it is a creative action which shapes a new nature and style of mutual relations between states. It leads, inter alia, to an awareness of the real paths to a secure world and consequently brings it closer.

This constructive aspect of the elimination of nuclear weapons is the most weighty argument against fears that this elimination will increase both attempts to use and the temptation to use conventional weapons—after all they too can be "minimized," reduced to reasonable sufficiency—to the formation of a structure for states' armed forces such that these forces will be sufficient for repelling possible aggression but not for waging offensive operations. And the new situation which is being generated by the predictable future of the implementation of the Soviet-U.S. treaty creates additional incentives to radical measures in this direction. The distinguishing feature of a nuclear-free world thus lies not only in the fact that there will be no nuclear weapons in it—in that it would not differ from the prenuclear world.

We conceive the nuclear-free world only in conjunction with an all-embracing system of international security, with the mechanisms, structures, and atmosphere it presupposes. It is not for nothing that political documents speak of "**building** a nuclear-free world." A nuclear-free world is a matter for the future and its building is a matter for the present.

These are some thoughts about the conceivable: In eliminating missiles we acquire not only hope but also something else. The logic of the process of this elimination leads us not to the prenuclear world but to the postnuclear world. The destruction of weapons will proceed, cannot fail to proceed, alongside the creation not only of material, political, and legal guarantees but also of psychological guarantees of international and national security. And the latter—are they not a step toward the formation of a new moral climate in the world arena?

Perhaps this path will not be as straight as its purely logical design. But the general trend can already be outlined mentally. It will blaze a trail while running up against contradictory interests. Yet did the USSR and the United States not have contradictory interests when they entered into an alliance to win the war against Hitler? So why rule out their cooperation when it is a case of conquering war itself? On this path only gains await all mankind. And "losses?" Only weapons.

Warsaw Pact Group Holds Session in Sofia

LD1700223588 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1717 GMT 17 May 88

[Text] Sofia, 17 May (TASS)—A meeting of the leaders of the evaluation and planning and foreign policy prognosis administrations and departments of the Foreign Ministries of the Warsaw Treaty member states took place in the Bulgarian capital from 16 to 17 May.

An in-depth exchange of views on the situation in Europe and on trends of its further development was carried out.

Shevardnadze Returns From East Berlin Meeting

PM1705145188 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 May 88 Second Edition p4

[TASS report under general heading: "Return Home"]

[Excerpt] Berlin, 13 May—[Passage omitted] E.A. Shevardnadze left Berlin today after taking part in a meeting of Warsaw Pact foreign ministers. He was accompanied to the airport by O. Fischer, GDR foreign minister, and by V.I. Kochemasov, Soviet ambassador to the GDR.

E.A. Shevardnadze was greeted at Moscow airport by A.N. Yakovlev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; A.G. Kovalev, USSR first deputy foreign minister; and other officials.

Also present were S. Koerner, GDR charge d'affaires ad interim in the Soviet Union, and F. Pianca, Swiss ambassador to the Soviet Union.

CEMA Executive Committee Meets in Moscow

LD1705103488 Moscow TASS in English 0754 GMT 17 May 88

[Text] Moscow May 17 TASS—The Executive Committee of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA) met for its 127th session in Moscow today to discuss the materials prepared for the next session of the CMEA Council and also other pressing issues of the CMEA member countries' cooperation and the council's activity.

IAEA Symposium Addresses Nuclear Power Issues

LD1705151888 Moscow TASS in English 1345 GMT 17 May 88

[Text] Stockholm May 17 TASS—The CMEA member countries are convinced of the need to develop nuclear power engineering at priority rates as compared with the conventional types of power engineering. This is pointed out in the report on cooperation of the CMEA member countries in the handling of radioactive wastes of nuclear power plants, which was issued at the current symposium of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). At present the CMEA member countries, Bulgaria, Hungary, the German Democratic Republic, Czechoslovakia and the USSR, have 24 functioning nuclear power plants with an aggregate generating capacity of nearly 43,000 megawatt. Nuclear power engineering has increased its significance as a source guaranteeing realiable energy supply for the future and a program approved at the CMEA session in 1986 for the construction of nuclear power plants and heat supply stations until the year 2000 provides for a further development of that industry on a large scale. An important condition for that, the document goes on to say, is the cooperation within the CMEA framework for the nuclear fuel cycle. In so doing much attention is devoted to the resolution of the most important and urgent problem of rendering nuclear radioactive wastes harmless, their safe storage and disposal.

In the opinion of the CMEA member countries, the most promising for the ultimate dumping of radioactive wastes is the use of geological formations, the report says. The arrangement for the dumping into such formations makes it possible to isolate effectively radioactive wastes for the whole period of the time necessary for lowering the level of their activeness down to safe limits through spontaneous decay and can ensure the isolation of radioactive wastes in the emergency situations, for example, in natural calamities.

Addressing the symposium Czechoslovakia's representative L. Molnar stressed that the CMEA member countries have a stake in developing international cooperation in the field of nuclear power engineering with other states and international organisations, in the first place with IAEA and are prepared to share with them their experience of many years in the handling of radioactive wastes formed at the nuclear power plants.

Gromyko Meets With Interaction Council Members
PM1905120988 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
19 May 88 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report under heading "Conversations in Kremlin"]

[Text] Andrey Gromyko received Takeo Fukuda, honorary chairman of the Interaction Council and former prime minister of Japan, and Helmut Schmidt, the council's chairman and former federal chancellor of the FRG, in the Kremlin on 18 May.

Their conversation dealt with the global problems of our times. The guests asked the questions which are at the center of international public attention and, therefore, are reflected during discussions at the regular session of the Interaction Council in Moscow.

The first question asked by Helmut Schmidt was associated with perestroyka. Will it influence a reduction in spending on arms and the Armed Forces?

Andrey Gromyko explained that the Soviet Union would like to reduce both arms and the Armed Forces. But everything will depend on the international situation and on how the Soviet Union's partners—big Western powers—will act in this respect.

Takeo Fukuda asked for an estimate of the current international situation. The situation in the world, Andrey Gromyko said in explaining the Soviet stand, has become better than it was some time ago. The relations between the Soviet Union and the United States, which influence the entire international situation, have become softer. The signing of the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles is an important factor in this sense. It has become a contribution to the process of curbing nuclear arms and eliminating nuclear weapons.

The Soviet Union would like this step to be followed by other ones, specifically by a reduction in strategic offensive arms. The USSR will do everything depending on it for the U.S. President's forthcoming visit to Moscow to become a precipitating element of the development of the international situation and from the viewpoint of disarmament as well. The Soviet Union would like the visit to produce a positive result.

Then, at the request of the guests, the problem of rapid growth of population in conjunction with environmental protection was discussed. Andrey Gromyko said that our planet has great potential to feed by far more people than there are now on the earth. With this end in view, it is essential rationally to distribute terrestrial resources adroitly, with the use of science and all achievements of mankind, and, of course, to switch over the funds which are now being used for military purposes into uses to meet civilian needs. In other words, it is necessary to guide oneself by reason and not by unreason.

Helmut Schmidt was interested in this question: Is perestroyka in the USSR of irreversible character, or is everything taking place now a temporary thing?

Andrey Gromyko stated that perestroyka is the fundamental policy of the party. The people have accepted it irrevocably, and there is no and will be no way back. In the national economy, it means a rise in labor productivity and a decline in the prime cost of output, in power intensity, and in an improvement of the quality of goods, a rise in discipline at the workplace, and the application of scientific methods in the organization of labor, and the utilization of scientific achievements in production practice. At the same time, perestroyka also means a solution to a number of social issues: improvement of provision with food, refinement of the health care system, the display of greater care for children, a reform of the education system, more ample opportunities for people's rest, and a solution to a number of other matters closely connected with the people's life.

Perestroyka is inseparable from the deepening of democracy and widening of glasnost. All this concerns millions upon millions of people.

Just as any process, it takes place in time, so it cannot be limited by any precise timeframes. What is now taking place in our country and the essence of transformations are best shown in Mikhail Gorbachev's book "Perestroyka: New Thinking for Our Country and the World". This book is not just a summary of policy but also of the theory of perestroyka. It follows from all that has been said that if anyone declares that perestroyka should be completed by a certain deadline, he runs the risk of drawing most unfavorable comments.

Takeo Fukuda's question was about the possibility of the development of Japanese-Soviet relations.

Andrey Gromyko said in reply that their development is possible, but that the sides should not pose questions which are not and cannot be the subject for discussion. If the Japanese side understands this principle, there will be no problems for meetings, conversations, and negotiations.

We wish to widen ties with Japan in the economic, humanitarian, and cultural spheres. We want to develop good-neighborly relations. This has been decided by geography itself. It is better to be good neighbors than mere neighbors.

Then the question of the FRG cropped up. Andrey Gromyko noted that the Soviet Union would also like to develop good relations with that country. Every positive fact taking place in the FRG and related to the Soviet Union is very attentively considered in our country. All of us know the past very well. But our present task is to look into the future and strengthen relations. Such is our motto.

From himself and on behalf of Takeo Fukuda, Helmut Schmidt, chairman of the Interaction Council, expressed gratitude to the president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet for the meeting and conversation with them.

In the opinion of the Interaction Council, the coming summit talks in Moscow between Mikhail Gorbachev and Ronald Reagan will signify the beginning of a new era in international relations. The overwhelming majority of the FRG population wishes great success to perestroyka in the USSR, Helmut Schmidt said in conclusion. It must be beneficial for the people of the USSR and of the FRG, and for the whole world.

On behalf of the Interaction Council, Takeo Fukuda presented to Andrey Gromyko a small globe showing the earth as it is seen from aboard a spaceship.

Also present at the conversation were V.F. Petrovskiy, USSR deputy foreign minister; Terimuchi Nakayama, member of the Japanese parliament and adviser to T. Fukuda; and Jens Fischer, secretary to H. Schmidt.

On the same day, Andrey Gromyko also received other prominent political figures currently here to attend meetings of the Interaction Council, at their request: Lord James Callaghan of Britain, Huang Hua of the People's Republic of China, Maneu Manescu of Romania, William Rogers of the United States, and Mitja Ribitic of Yugoslavia.

Their conversation dealt, in the main, with questions concerning the restructuring process taking place in the Soviet Union and the course of which is of immense interest to the international public.

Andrey Gromyko said that such interest to the course of the CPSU and the Soviet state towards resolute revitalization of all aspects of the life of Soviet society is not fortuitous. The great cause of revolutionary transformations, which has already been launched by the Soviet people, yields fruit. These successes are noticed not only by Soviet people but by many abroad as well.

Headway cannot resemble a continuous and uniform front. In some field, there is greater headway, and in another one, a lesser advance. But on the whole, the process goes on confidently. The Soviet Union is a vast country, and what is done in one part is not always done in another one to the same extent. This applies both to industry, agriculture, and other fields. Such is reality.

Perestroyka applies not only to the economy but to the social sphere as well. The question in point now is to provide people with much food, and the best prime necessities—clothes and footwear. We must create good medical service for Soviet people, and well-appointed housing. We strive to raise the entire system of education to a new level.

Andrey Gromyko spoke in detail about great attention that the party, the Soviet state give to the problem of cadres. Many of them have a correct understanding of the tasks of perestroyka, but there are people who have not yet found their place in it. Meanwhile, millions of people should be involved in perestroyka, and this is already being done. Such is the essence of the democratization of Soviet society at the present stage. We are optimistic about the future and are confident that the tasks will be resolved.

Andrey Gromyko summed up the present-day international situation and said that the coming visit of the U.S. President to Moscow and his forthcoming summit talks with Mikhail Gorbachev are viewed in the Soviet Union as an important milestone of Soviet-American relations.

William Rogers said that many people in the United States are surprised at how far the Soviet Union has advanced in matters of perestroyka. From his viewpoint, 95 percent of sober-minded Americans who closely follow the situation in the USSR support all the Soviet undertakings in this area. Everything that is being done by the Soviet Government now is viewed in the United States as the striving to help people.

Andrey Gromyko said that this precisely is the aim of the Soviet Government's activity: to be helping people always and in everything.

The People's Republic of China, as a neighbor and old friend of the Soviet Union, wishes that perestroyka in the USSR be a success, said Huang Hua. He noted that people in China are glad that the recent years saw a considerable progress in relations with the Soviet Union. Several hundred Chinese delegations will visit the USSR this year alone. The development of state relations must lead to their normalization. The withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan has been highly assessed by the Chinese side.

In conclusion, Andrey Gromyko wished that the interlocutors should take home the following main impressions: first, that the Soviet Union is striving to deepen relations with the countries they represent; second, that perestroyka in the USSR is a serious matter and that it will be implemented.

V.F. Petrovskiy, USSR deputy foreign minister, and E.L. Kuzmin, chief of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium International Relations Department, were present during the conversation.

Madrid Socialist International Session Summed Up

PM1805152588 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 May 88 Morning Edition p 4

[Own correspondent V. Vernikov dispatch: "Socialist International: Efforts in Favor of Peace"]

[Text] Madrid—Members of the Socialist International Council—leaders of European socialist parties and many heads of government—have been meeting here for 2

days behind virtually impenetrable doors for journalists, dispensing carefully measured information to the press in the shape of the speeches delivered, but carefully witholding information about the course of the debates and the heat of the passions released during the discussion of issues.

The agenda provided every reason for this, in view of not just minor differences in the approach of various countries' representatives to specific problems but at times diametrically opposed views on, for instance, Israel's actions on the occupied Arab territories or the so-called NATO arms upgrading. At the same time, complete identity of stances on a wide range of questions was noted, primarily on questions such as the reduction of nuclear arsenals and military confrontation in Europe, the settlement of the Central American conflict, and so forth.

The current sessions of the Socialist International Council resulted in a number of important resolutions which reflect the concern of many leaders of socialist parties and heads of government at the development of events in the world and their desire to add their contributions to the process of relaxation of tension which has emerged. I believe that the most sober and balanced approach was contained in the speech with which Socialist International Chairman Willy Brandt opened the meeting and, not surprisingly, its fundamental tenets formed the cornerstone, as it were, of all the resolutions adopted on the last day. They included, in particular, an appeal to the U.S. Senate to ratify as soon as possible the Soviet-U.S. Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles, measures on a political settlement in the Near East and in Central America, a sharp condemnation of racism in South Africa, and all-around support for Soviet-U.S. dialogue and an improvement of the climate in East-West relations.

Unfortunately, the resolute condemnation of the Israeli Government's actions in the occupied Arab territories and its hostile policy toward other countries of the region which rang out especially emphatically in the speeches of F. Gonzalez and B. Craxi was not reflected in the official documents of the meeting. S. Peres, who attended the meeting, was forced to resort to complicated maneuvers and multistage negotiations to prevent the appearance in the final resolution of accusations that Israel violates human rights and lacks the political will to resolve the conflict, as well as direct accusations of militarist aspirations. At the same time, it must be noted that the selfsame F. Gonzalez, and subsequently also N. Kinnock, V. Constancio, Gro Harlem Brundland, and I. Carlsson permitted themselves an arrogant, patronizing tone in assessing the events currently taking place in the USSR and in judging the prospects of restructuring and did not shrink from using nauseating old political cliches and "associations."

The meeting participants devoted less attention than originally planned to the role of the European countries in the dialogue between the USSR and the United States on disarmament problems and economic assistance to developing countries. These topics were formally mentioned in almost all the speeches, but they took the form of rhetorical appeals rather than of a discussion of specific steps or initiatives, which none of the speakers proposed. Therefore, summing up the results of the Madrid sessions of the Socialist International Council, it is possible to agree with the editorial published by EL PAIS, which said that its main aim was to declare its involvement in world issues and that it did not set itself, nor can it resolve, other, more important tasks.

Kashlev Welcomes Neutrals' CSCE Draft Paper

PM1805131988 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
15 May 88 Morning Edition p 5

[Own correspondent S. Tosunyan dispatch: "Draft Final Document Submitted"]

[Text] Vienna—Fridays are usually days for plenary sessions at the Vienna meeting of representatives of CSCE member states, and journalists are told about their results in the press center premises only after they have ended.

This tradition was broken on 13 May. Press representatives were the first to learn that the delegations of neutral and nonaligned states had prepared a draft final document and intended to submit it for discussion by the remaining delegation on that same day. The news conference was attended by the foreign ministers of nine neutral and nonaligned countries. Speaking on their behalf, Austrian Foreign Minister Alois Mock expressed the hope that the suggested draft could provide a sound basis for the elaboration of a balanced and generally acceptable final document.

This opinion is shared by other participants in the Vienna meeting. Following the end of the plenary session, I asked Ambassador Yu.B. Kashlev, head of the USSR delegation, for his opinion on the document.

"The very fact that, following intense discussions, the neutral and nonaligned countries have made the effort to elaborate an all-embracing draft final document is a very positive step and deserves the greatest gratitude. At previous meetings on questions of security and cooperation in Europe, it was again this group of countries that often took upon itself the role of coordinator, building bridges between the military-political alliances existing in Europe. In this way the neutral and nonaligned countries helped the quest for new paths leading to detente and helped prepare recommendations for further developing cooperation between countries in the security sphere and the political, economic, and humanitarian spheres.

"The draft they have submitted is a voluminous document of some 50 pages, which makes an attempt to formulate solutions acceptable to all with due consideration for the sides' positions. They cover military questions, problems of human contacts, the development of economic ties, and cooperation in environmental protection.... Just a brief examination of the draft makes it possible to say that it will considerably facilitate our work. This is the decisive stage of the Vienna meeting. Now it is very important for all delegations, without wasting any time, to study the proposals by neutral and nonaligned countries, submit their amendments, and elaborate a finished version of the final document."

Burlatskiy Views Paris Human Rights Talks

LD1805204088 Moscow TASS in English 2017 GMT 18 May 88

[Text] Paris May 18 TASS—A press conference by the delegation of the Public Commission on International Cooperation on Humanitarian Issues and Human Rights at the Soviet Committee for European Security and Cooperation, held here today, was devoted to the outcome of the Soviet-U.S. meeting on human rights that drew to a close in Paris.

Fedor Burlatskiy, a political news analyst of the newspaper LITERATURNAYA GAZETA, who headed the Soviet delegation, emphasized in his remarks that the meeting was organized as part of preparations for the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting in Moscow. Both sides set out their positions and proposals on the human rights problem as well as outlined plans of cooperation.

The Soviet commission, he said, does not limit itself to the international aspects of the efforts to ensure human rights but attaches major importance to tackling these problems in the Soviet Union whereas representatives of the United States are engaged solely in human rights records in other countries.

The head of the Soviet delegaton said that despite the emerged differences, the participants in the meeting succeeded in reaching agreement on some issues. The sides decided to hold several activities. They plan, in part, to exchange trips by Soviet and U.S. lawyers and information on questions related to human rights observance in the United States and the USSR. Measures will be taken to intensify actions in support of the demands for ratifying international agreements on human rights.

More on International Conference on Chernobyl

Radiation Effects Analyzed

AU1805220488 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 12 May 88 p 3

[RATAU report: "Chernobyl Teaches and Warns"]

[Excerpts] Kiev, 11 May—The experience of the truly giant work carried out to eliminate the effects of the accident at the Chernobyl AES is of great importance, not only for Soviet science and practice, but also for the world. The scientific conference that opened today in the Ukraine's capital city is called upon to elucidate the medical aspects of the accident. The participants included more than 150 of our country's prominent scientists in the field of radiation medicine and protection against radiation, health service experts and administrators from various countries all over the world, representatives of the IAEA, and a number of international organizations. They will be the first to examine the entire package of problems which arose in connection with the accident in the nuclear reactor. A large group of foreign journalists also arrived in Kiev.

Nuclear power generation is part and parcel of present-day reality. At the same time, irrespective of the technical and technological measures being taken in all countries to maximally reduce the risk of an accident involving radiation at a nuclear power station, this risk cannot be reduced to zero. This fundamentally important thesis dictates the need to elaborate, plan, and prepare in advance the measures for the population, at the so-called "secondary defense level," in case an accident should take place anyhow. The Chernobyl experience is evidence that neither efforts nor costs must be spared for this purpose.

The Kiev meeting is expected to profoundly analyze the effects of dynamic radiation conditions on man and the environment, to evaluate the volume, completeness, and quality of medical services and their activity, and the state of health of people subject to irradiation. Having taken into account the effects of the accident, the scientists in their discussions will examine the long-term tasks of the country's health service organs and institutions.

The conference, organized by the USSR Ministry of Health, the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences, and the All-Union Scientific Center for Radiation Medicine under the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences, was opened by Ye.I. Chazov, USSR minister of health. [passage omitted]

The conference participants were welcomed by H. Blix, IAEA director general. V.A. Zgurskiy, Kiev Gorispolkom chairman, addressed the guests on behalf of the inhabitants of the Ukraine's capital city.

At its first session, the conference heard and discussed the following reports: G.V. Sergeyev, USSR first deputy minister of health, "The Organization and Effectiveness of Measures Taken by Soviet Health Services To Eliminate the Effects of the Accident at the Chernobyl AES"; A.I. Kondrusyev, USSR deputy minister of health, "Sanitary and Hygienic Measures in Eliminating the Effects of the Accident at the Chernobyl AES"; L.A. Ilyin, director of the Biophysics Institute under the USSR Ministry of Health and vice president of the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences, "The Experience of Chernobyl in the Context of Present-Day Problems Concerning Defense Against Radiation"; and A.Ye. Romanenko,

Ukrainian SSR minister of health and director of the All-Union Scientific Center for Radiation Medicine under the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences, "The Protection of the Population's Health Under Conditions Resulting From a Large-Scale Accident at a Nuclear Power Station." [passage omitted]

The conference participants—scientists, experts, and journalists—will visit the Chernobyl AES, the All-Union Scientific Center with its institutes, clinics, and hospitals, and will meet people who experienced the tragedy. They will familiarize themselves with materials on the medical aspects of the accident at the Chernobyl AES and will exchange views on the problems in question.

Present at the opening of the conference were: Yu.N. Yelchenko, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo member and secretary; V.D. Gladush and M.A. Orlik, Ukrainian SSR Council of Ministers deputy chairmen; V.S. Baltrunas, Science and Educational Institutions Department deputy chief in the CPSU Central Committee; F.M. Rudich, Science and Educational Institutions Department chief in the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee; and responsible functionaries of the CPSU and Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committees, and of the Ukrainian SSR Council of Ministers.

Medical Aspects Aired

PM1705125588 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 May 88 Morning Edition p 6

[Own correspondent N. Baklanov article under the rubric "Details for IZVESTIYA": "Chernobyl Through the Eyes of Medics"]

[Text] Kiev—A scientific conference on "Medical Aspects of the Chernobyl AES Accident" is being held in Kiev from 11-13 May. Taking part in it are about 150 leading Soviet scientists and specialists in the radiology sphere and foreign guests from more than 20 countries.

When opening the conference, USSR Minister of Health Ye. Chazov said: "It is 2 years since the Chernobyl accident, but people are still perturbed by the question: What are its consequences for our country, for the health of generations that are alive today and those that are to come?" "Today we can confidently state that, thanks to the mobilization of all medical experience and the unprecedented efforts by medical workers, the accident has not affected the state of health of the population of affected areas."

"The main lesson of Chernobyl is not to abandon nuclear power," IAEA Director General H. Blix emphasized in his speech to the conference. "But we must certainly focus attention on reducing the operational risks at nuclear power stations and must give more attention to questions of nuclear safety. Various countries are interested in this, and much in the solution of these problems depends on international solidarity. An example of such an approach was set by the Soviet Union, which supplied IAEA experts with a detailed report on the accident and its consequences."

This idea was also supported by Dr R. Gale in a conversation with journalists.

Speaking of the Chernobyl experience in the context of contemporary problems of radiation protection, L. Ilin, director of the USSR Ministry of Health Biophysics Institute and vice president of the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences, pointed out in particular the need to improve the dosimetry monitoring system and the appropriate instruments. He also noted that, despite the fact that there are two relatively "clean" sectors inside the 30-km zone—the northeastern and the southern sectors—medics still have reservations about the question of the population's return there. One of the reasons is the need to maintain a closed zone (it is planned to reduce it to 10 km in the future) so as to prevent the spread of radionuclides.

The protection of the population's health in conditions of a large-scale AES accident was the subject of a report by A. Romanenko, director of the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences All-Union Scientific Center for Radiation Medicine and Ukrainian SSR minister of health. In his speech he, like other specialists, spoke of the groundless rumors about a sharply increased quantity of cancer cases, about complications experienced by women in childbirth, about deformities [otkloneniya] in children born after the accident.... The truth is that the 3,000 pregnant women who were evacuated from Pripyat and the adjoining areas gave birth without any pathological deformities, and the children are developing normally. As for cancer cases, the increase by just 0.01 percent is higher than spontaneous fluctuation and is virtually insignificant against the background of the country's population.

United States & Canada

Reagan Discusses Upcoming Moscow Summit

LD1805201388 Moscow TASS in English 1936 GMT 18 May 88

[Text] Washington May 18 TASS—TASS correspondent Igor Ignatiyev reports:

President of the United States Ronald Reagan emphasized his intention to continue at the coming Moscow summit a dialogue on the reduction of nuclear armaments, paying special attention to strategic offensive weapon systems.

Addressing graduates of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in New London, Connecticut, today, the head of the U.S. Administration said that during the Moscow summit the U.S. side plans to hold discussions on all the four main problems of relations between the Soviet Union and the United States, namely, the questions of arms limitation, bilateral relations, human rights and regional conflicts.

Reagan noted some improvements that took place as a result of the process of the democratisation of all the aspects of life, taking place in the USSR, but, just as in previous speeches, emphasized that these changes are not yet fully in keeping with the Washington standards in human rights area.

The President of the United States positively assessed the process of the pull-out of Soviet troops from Afghanistan, saying that this will be noted by the U.S. during the discussion of regional conflicts at the Moscow meeting. At the same time he confirmed the support for the forces of the Afghan opposition.

McFarlane Calls SDI 'Impracticable'

LD1805211188 Moscow TASS in English 2016 GMT 18 May 88

[Text] Washington May 18 TASS—Robet McFarlane, former assistant to the U.S. President for national security affairs, has said that President Reagan took a decision to start the implementation of the "Star Wars" program contrary to the conviction of his advisers that the creation of an anti-missile space "shield" would ostensibly "depreciate" nuclear weapons and would render them unnecessary.

The idea is impracticable, stated Robert McFarlane when speaking at hearings in the House Armed Services Committee. He said that as a former member of government he felt guilty for the fact that the people of the United States are misled in matters concerning their security.

Further on Senate INF Treaty Deliberations

'Way Cleared' for Discussion

PM1805134488 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 May 88 Second Edition p 1

[Own correspondent V. Gan report: "Way Is Cleared"]

[Text] Washington, 17 May—The Geneva talks between USSR Minister E.A. Shevardnadze and Secretary of State G. Shultz cleared the way for the discussion of the Soviet-American Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles by the full Senate.

This was announced today by R. Byrd, leader of the Democratic majority in the Senate, who said that he plans to submit the treaty for examination by the upper chamber of Congress on Tuesday.

Byrd stated that he made this decision after consultations with the chairmen and leading members of the three Senate committees—on foreign relations, armed services, and intelligence—that are directly involved in questions of arms control. According to the senator, all the participants in the consultations told him that the mutual understanding reached in Geneva suits them completely. "I am satisfied, and intend to move forward. I want this treaty to receive the Senate's approval. I will be glad if it is approved by the Senate by the time of the U.S. President's trip to Moscow," Byrd noted at a news conference.

The consultations were preceded by a speech to members of all three committees by U.S. Secretary of State Shultz, who set forth in detail the nature of the decisions elaborated during the talks with E.A. Shevardnadze concerning certain issues of the treaty's implementation. "We and the Soviets agree not only on the rights and duties established by the treaty, but also on the procedures for their implementation," the secretary of state noted.

The elimination of obstacles to the discussion of the Soviet-American agreement on the elimination of two classes of missiles at once is positive news in itself. The obstruction created by certain leading Democratic senators and by the opponents of any accords with the USSR whatever, who gladly aligned themselves with them, caused serious concern in U.S. public circles. Numerous groups and organizations of Americans demanded that the legislators set aside interparty quarrels and the settling of scores with the White House for the sake of an action of significance to all mankind—the first step in history toward the elimination of arms.

Now that there are no grounds for further procrastination or maneuvering, the discussion of the treaty with the object of ratification is being resumed. But the opponents of the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles do not intend to give up.

Their leader in the Senate, J. Helms, speaks unequivocally of plans to introduce "killer amendments" which, if adopted, would mean the collapse of the whole carefully elaborated and adjusted treaty structure.

Polyakovskiy Views Session

LD1905115188 Moscow TASS in English 1115 GMT 19 May 88

[Text] Washington May 19 TASS—By TASS correspondent Oleg Polyakovskiy:

The U.S. Senate discussing in full session the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles repelled on Wednesday a conservatives attack against the treaty. The upper chamber of Congress voted down 91 against 6 the motion by Senator Jesse Helms that the examination of the treaty be renounced on the basis of the allegation that "it is not mandatory for the Soviet Union."

Conservative Jesse Helms, who promised that he would make every effort to foil the approval of the treaty, was trying to force on the senators a debate on who has the right to sign an international treaty. He claimed, among other things, that the USSR could renounce the treaty any time. Helms was echoed by Senator Steven Symms, another opponent of any agreements with the USSR.

Helms and his supporters met with a resolute rebuff from their colleagues, who convincingly proved the inconsistency of the statements by the conservatives. Republican Senator Richard Lugar stressed that there is absolutely no ground to claim that the treaty had not been properly signed.

The treaty is the beginning of an end to the senseless race in building up the nuclear weapons arsenals, Senator Alan Cranston noted. It will be four months next Wednesday since the treaty was sent to Senate for discussion, and I believe that on that day we shall give consent to its ratification, Senator Robert Dole, Republican floor leader, said. So let us roll up the sleeves and get down to work, Robert Dole urged. In his turn Senator Brock Adams warned that there might be no other such opportunity for decades.

Gorbachev Receives U.S. Journalists

LD1805153288 Moscow TASS in English 1526 GMT 18 May 88

[Text] Moscow May 18 TASS—Mikhail Gorbachev met today with a group of American journalists from THE WASHINGTON POST Publishing Corporation. He talked with them and replied to their questions.

The meeting was attended by:

Katharine Graham, chairman of the board; Richard Smith, chief editor of NEWSWEEK; Jimmie Hoagland and Meg Greenfield, WASHINGTON POST editors; and Robert Kaiser, deputy editor for domestic issues of THE WASHINGTON POST.

The interview will be published in the Soviet press on May 23 following its publication in the United States.

Plans To Cope With U.S. Visitors Outlined

PM1905080388 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 11 May 88 p 9

[Special correspondent Igor Belyayev dispatch under the rubric "Contacts and Contracts": "100,000 Visitors to Our Country"]

[Text] New York-Moscow—This is the unprecedentedly large number of U.S. visitors expected in the Soviet Union in 1988 alone. They include many representatives of the U.S. business world and people interested in expanding U.S. cooperation with the Soviet Union.

It will not, of course, be easy to receive the transatlantic guests. They will need seats on aircraft, prior reservations in comfortable hotel rooms, clearly planned routes for trips around our vast country, and a precise schedule for business meetings. And, lastly, a cultural program is needed as well.

I am by no means calling for our U.S. guests to be pandered to at any cost. Even at the cost of our dignity. Under no circumstances! However, we must all the same revive our bygone hospitality, endeavor to greet guests kindly, and show them the best side of our country. Unfortunately, it is evident that we lack both hospitality and the desire to show off our country's best side....

However, something has been achieved. On 15 May this year one of the first joint Soviet-U.S. enterprises begins operations. It is called "Spate"—"a partner organization for tourism." Our side is represented by Aeroflot and the American by Pan American.

When I was recently in New York, I asked James Fannan of Pan Am, which is our main partner in "Spate": What are we talking about?

"We will provide services for all Americans wishing to visit the Soviet Union together with your Aeroflot: in the air, on the ground, and at sea. I am talking above all about joint Soviet-U.S. Boeing-747 flights, hotel accommodations, and transportation within the Soviet Union. At least on routes accessible to your U.S. guests."

"What is the scale of the new Soviet-U.S. enterprise's operations?"

"Quite large. Don't imagine that it is that simple to accommodate all comers with airline tickets and hotel rooms even in Moscow. We also needed Inturist's help. U.S. businessmen want their stay in the Soviet Union to

be pleasant in all respects. They also expect the use of modern business methods."

"You mean computers and ultramodern communications systems?"

"Of course! The new technology in the United States must have its counterparts in the Soviet Union."

"How many Boeing-747 flights will there be each week?"

"Three for starters. We are maintaining existing Aeroflot and Pan Am runs. Businesslike cooperation must come into force."

"Will this affect the share in the profits?"

"Profits will be shared out on a 50-50 basis—that is, equally. However, we would not want passengers, whether they be U.S. or Soviet citizens, to be deprived of the right of choice."

The remark seemed essential to me. In the past relations with Pan Am were overshadowed by the fact that some of Aeroflot's leaders thought that the best option for business cooperation was "every man for himself," and that they alone could carry passengers. I would like to think that there will be no recurrence....

"How do you envisage the future of this cooperation?"

"We would like to create an infrastructure for our joint enterprise—build hotels, tourist complexes, car-hire bases—in order to create a favorable climate for expanding U.S.-Soviet cooperation. Our enterprise is unique. I am very glad to be involved in its activity. It is organized on a long-term basis and there are prospects for constant expansion."

In New York I gained the impression that my U.S. interlocutor was not biased and that cooperation between Aeroflot and Pan Am is a two-way street. The participants in the joint enterprise have achieved mutual understanding. Profits will be reaped from the business that has been initiated!

Soviet Soldiers Address Open Letter to Reagan

LD1805225088 Moscow in English to North America 2200 GMT 18 May 88

[Text] The soldiers of the first Soviet Army unit to leave Afghanistan have sent a message to U.S. President Ronald Reagan. We now bring you the full text of that message:

Mr President, we soldiers of the first Soviet Army unit leaving Afghanistan under the Geneva accords have decided to address you with an open letter. We have a very serious reason for that. Several hours before leaving we visited Indira Gandhi hospital. What we saw there appalled us: crippled children who will never be able to live full-fledged lives. The children we saw there were victims of war. Muslim extremists on 9 May rocketed a densely populated area of Kabul. Eleven children died and a dozen others were injured. That tragedy should have never occurred. All people no matter where they live had the same feeling when they learned that the Geneva accords on Afghanistan had been signed. War in that country had come to an end. The people felt confident of that also because promises to act to safeguard the Geneva accords had been made by the Soviet Union and the United States, countries that had shown new political thinking and managed not only to agree to eliminate a whole class of nuclear missiles but also to settle the most serious regional conflict by political means for the first time in history. We are also confident that all this has become possible thanks to your personal desire to replace confrontation with peace and the relaxation of tensions. This is why we are asking you, the President of one of the world's most powerful nations, to use America's prestige and your personal authority in the behalf [as heard] of this humane goal—that of bringing war in Afghanistan to an end and to ensure that no more bombs fall, no more people die, and no more children become invalids.

It is clear to all that if the President of the United States wishes the bombings to stop in Afghanistan they will stop, because those who call themselves freedom fighters have always followed your orders. We know that you love children. Two years ago you received Afghan children who had suffered from the war in the White House. Now that the restoration of peace in Afghanistan may already be a reality, we are asking you to do everything in your power to ensure that that country has no more crippled or orphaned children. We would like very much to hope that our message will reach you.

Biryukov Scores U.S. Role in Regional Conflicts

LD1705132188 Moscow TASS in English 1304 GMT 17 May 88

[Text] Moscow May 17 TASS—By TASS political news analyst Askold Biryukov:

So the first break has occurred in a chain of regional conflicts in various parts of the world, which at times smoulder and at times flare up with a new force. The accords signed in Geneva on the political settlement of the situation around Afghanistan, which create conditions for ending armed and any other interference from outside in the internal affairs of this country, came into force. Termination of that interference paved the way for a return home of the limited contingent of Soviet troops, moved into that country at the request of the legitimate government to render assistance in the defense of Afghanistan's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

The world community welcomed the attainment of the political settlement of the Afghan problem, justifiably regarding it as an example for the peaceful settlement of

other regional conflicts. These conflicts seriously aggravate the current international relations. The solution of the Afghan problem rouses hopes of the peoples of different continents that, given the political will and readiness to make mutually acceptable concessions, other problems jeopardizing world peace can be solved.

However, these hopes come against a lack of realism and direct attempts to export counterrevolution on the part of the U.S. Administration. Today's Afghanistan is far from being the only example. Speaking early this year at U.S. Congress, President Ronald Reagan in actual fact reaffirmed his commitment to the notorious doctrine of "neoglobalism". He publicly stated the resolve to continue to support the so-called "fighters for freedom", which means nothing more than counterrevolutionary forces which use U.S. funds to wage armed struggle against popular and legitimate governments in Nicaragua, Angola, Afghanistan and other countries whose political choice Washington dislikes. The President said bluntly that their cause was the cause of the USA. The Administration matches these words with deeds, in Afghanistan as well, despite and in defiance of the accords signed in Geneva.

Having survived the "Vietnam syndrome" and refusing to abandon its goal of establishing American dominance in the world, Washington seems to have decided that expansionist aims could be best attained by spilling the "cheaper" blood of the hired "fighters for freedom" rather than the blood of one-hundred-per-cent Yankees. And so millions of dollars are lavished in military aid on Nicaraguan contras, Afghan antigovernment groups, Savimbi bandits and other mercenaries involved in undeclared wars.

Regional conflicts or "low intensity wars," as they are called in the Pentagon, take a heavy toll. After the Second World War they claimed the lives of as many as 17 million people. There is no alterantive to their peaceful solution, no matter how hard the USA tries to refute this banking on force and export of counterrevolution. The situation in the Persian Gulf, for example, where Washington continues to flex its military muscles provides a graphic proof. The build-up of U.S. military interference in this region causes the flame of the Iran-Iraq war to rise higher and higher, threatening with the ever increasing risk for all. No doubt that regional conflicts will occupy a proper place at the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting in Moscow. The meeting must provide a forum for discussing a joint approach to the solution of regional conflicts with an eye to the growing striving of the world community to solve these conflicts by political means. Time, which is running short, will show whether they in Washington are prepared to take account of the growing striving and the wish of the peoples to live in peace and general security.

Turkatenko Views U.S. Neoglobalist Policy

LD1805172988 Moscow TASS in English 1522 GMT 18 May 88

[Text] Washington May 18 TASS—TASS correspondent Nikolay Turkatenko reports:

The Geneva accords on political settlement regarding Afghanistan, under which the Soviet Union has already started pulling out its troops from Afghanistan, opened, according to a widespread opinion, the roads to the solution of problems in other "hot spots" of the globe. But the situation regarding Afghanistan could have been settled much sooner, if it were not for broad interference of the USA, which was supplying most up-to-date armaments in virtually unlimited amounts to anti-government groups.

Washington uses the "doctrine of neoglobalism" as the basis for U.S. interference in virtually any area of the globe for the sake of "protecting the interests of America's national security" by removing the governments whose policy is not to Washington's liking or by supporting the most reactionary regimes. That doctrine is nothing new. Throughout the entire period after World War Two, that doctrine had been composite part of the United States foreign policy. But the defeat of the U.S. aggression against Vietnam showed the limits to the United States possibilities in imposing orders suiting the USA on other countries and peoples. In view of this circumstance, Washington brought into its policy and methods of "low intensity warfare". The essence of these "methods" is simple: to create and equip under the CIA leadership units of armed opposition for the struggle against lawful governments. Direct, though "cautious," participation of U.S. forces in these conflicts is not ruled out. This policy is manifested most strikingly in the undeclared war against Nicaragua. The same "methods" are used against Angola.

Michael Klare and Peter Kornbuh studying the United States global strategy, describe with full reason the doctrine of neoglobalism as new strategy of intervention. They edited the book "Low Intensity Warfare" which was brought out here. It is noted in the book that this course signifies the launching of an offensive on the revolutionary transformations in the world, above all, in developing countries.

It is admitted in the January 1988 official document of the White House "National Security Strategy of the United States" that the "doctrine of neoglobalism" is aimed, above all, at ensuring for the United States the access to foreign markets, energy sources and mineral resources.

Soviet, U.S. Experts View Combating Alcoholism
PM1805114188 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 18 May 88 p 4

[Ye. Borisova report: "Diagnosis and Treatment"]

[Text] Moscow—A meeting between leading Soviet and U.S. scientists discussing problems of combating alcoholism and drug addiction ended yesterday. N. Roslyakova, leader of the USSR Ministry of Health's All-Union Scientific Center of the Biomedical Problems of Drug Use, gave the following account:

According to sociologists' figures, there are more than 10 million alcoholics in the United States. We have far fewer but we should have no illusions: I believe that our statistics do not reflect the situation with complete objectivity. The fact is that the services designed to expose alcoholics are still not efficient enough. In brief, the problem of combating drunkenness both in the United States and in our country is quite acute. Nor is it easy to determine the actual number of drug addicts.

Cooperation with our U.S. colleagues will develop in two main directions—the diagnosis of chronic alcoholism and new methods of treatment. It is important to understand why people take to drink irrespective of social conditions. We believe that alcoholism has its origin not only in people's way of life but also in their different physiological susceptibility to alcohol. Having uncovered the true nature of drunkenness it is possible to choose the correct methods of treatment.

Brutents, CPS Delegation Leave for Canada
LD1805200888 Moscow TASS in English 1727 GMT 18 May 88

[Text] Moscow May 18 TASS—The CPSU delegation led by Karen Brutents, alternate member of the CPSU Central Committee, deputy head of the International Department of the CPSU, today flew to Toronto to attend the 27th Congress of the Communist Party of Canada.

China

Beijing Announces Wage, Food Price Increases
PM1805112988 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 May 88 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Price Rise"]

[Text] Beijing, 13 May—It has been officially announced here that from 15 May this year there will be an average rise of 30-60 percent in Beijing prices for four basic food products: Meat, fresh vegetables, eggs, and sugar. At the same time workers and employees will see a wage increase of 10 yuan. The report notes that this measure is calculated to stimulate growth in agricultural output while ensuring appropriate compensation for the city population.

Meat prices, for example, will be increased on the basis of grade and type. So, the price of lean pork will be increased from 2.5 yuan per 1 jin (500 grammes) to 4 yuan, while the price of mutton will be increased from 1.95 yuan to 3 yuan. Egg prices will rise from 1.41 to 1.81 yuan per jin (in China eggs are sold by weight) and sugar prices from 0.9 to 1.42 yuan. "This decision was preceded by a great deal of research and discussion," the report says.

Price reform problems have long been a feature in Chinese newspapers and are an important subject discussed by various authorities. Addressing a conference of the leaders of the country's 10 largest cities, Li Peng, member of the CPC Central Committee Politburo Standing Committee and premier of the PRC State Council, said: "Price reform is an important component of the general reform of China's economic structure. It must be implemented throughout the country on the basis of the local situation."

Official Discusses Amur River Border Trade
OW1705144788 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 0600 GMT 12 May 88

[Unattributed commentary: "The Amur Is a River of Unity"]

[Text] Dear listeners: Soviet-Chinese border trade has become one of the most active aspects in developing cooperation between our two countries. The volume of border trade today is estimated to be R50 million, and both sides want to see this process to continue.

Trade, however, is not the only means of contact between the peoples of the two countries' border areas. Contact in other economic spheres has also been actively broadened. For example, contact between our two countries' river transport departments has become closer.

There are more than 3,000 kilometers of waterways along the Soviet-Chinese border, and large parts of these waterways are close to the Amur River which is open to shipping service. As Soviet leader Comrade Gorbachev pointed out: We hope that this big river basin will bring the Chinese and Soviet peoples together, and that they will make concerted efforts to utilize the rich resources there for their common interests.

In the process of restoring cooperation between Soviet and Chinese river workers, certain issues have arisen which must be resolved by them together. Now Comrade (Shkapov), first deputy director of the Amur River Transport Bureau, will discuss some of the issues.

(Shkapov) says: A regular session of the working group of the Executive Commission for Soviet-Chinese Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation took place in Moscow on 21 April, and a decision on developing river transport was adopted at the meeting. Representatives of the Amur and Heilongjiang river transport

bureaus will soon meet in Harbin to draw up an agreement concerning the use of the Soviet Union's Blagoveshchensk and Lower Leninskoye ports and China's Heihe and Tongjiang ports, the transshipment of foreign trade goods, and other issues. According to a decision of the working group in charge of transport affairs, a Soviet delegation will arrive in Harbin on 25 May to draft and sign this agreement, which will determine the commercial, technical and other terms concerning the transshipment of foreign trade goods. Thus far these goods have been limited only to timber, soybean, chemical fertilizer, some petroleum products, and agricultural goods.

Comrade (Shkapov) said: We must realize, however, that work in this area has resumed only recently after years of interruption. The work at present is to activate the two countries' foreign trade organizations and discuss ways and means to broaden the scope of commodity transshipment. There already are realistic prospects in this regard. As far as timber is concerned, for example, we have agreed to double timber transshipment to 150,000 cubic meters in 1988 from 72,000 cubic meters in 1987. We will discuss these and other issues while working on the agreement. The agreement will not only apply to ports handling transshipment of foreign trade goods, but also be applicable to other ports which may be opened along the Amur River.

Comrade (Shkapov) continued: Aside from drafting the agreement, we also want to discuss certain technical issues as well as issues concerning the reduction of freight by, for example, avoiding the transfer of goods from Soviet ships to Chinese ships at Lower Leninskoye port. It is our hope that Soviet ships will be able to deliver timber directly to its destination, Jiamusi, and that Chinese ships will continue to be able to proceed beyond Lower Leninskoye port. We also plan to discuss the feasibility of strengthening scientific and technical ties between our two bureaus as well as having a repair service for our ships at the Harbin shipyard. This issue will be discussed in detail in Khabarovsk. A delegation of Chinese experts is already there. In Harbin, we will discuss the prospects for solving this issue. Discussions have already been conducted in Khabarovsk on rebuilding the Soviet ship ("Vasily Buyarkov") and its internal combustion engine.

Comrade (Shkapov) concluded: The forthcoming meeting in Harbin will give us the opportunity to discuss the exchange of resources by our two bureaus. We hope we will also be able to discuss the possibility of purchasing bricks to build housing units and other public projects, and we expect to utilize the nonmetallic construction materials China has been mining along the Amur River basin.

Northeast Asia

Conflicting Reports on Ship Fire Casualties

1 Killed, 10 Missing

OW1905081988 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1000 GMT 18 May 88

[Text] A fire broke out on the Soviet ship "Priamurye" at anchor in Osaka Port last night. Aboard were 295 Soviet tourists visiting Japan and a 129-member crew. According to reports now available, 1 person was killed in the fire, about 20 were injured, and approximately 10 remain missing. Other passengers and crew members fled to safety. At the moment, the cause of fire is unknown.

11 Reported Dead

LD1805114888 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1017 GMT 18 May 88

[Text] Tokyo, 18 May (TASS)—TASS correspondent Vasiliy Golovin reports:

A heavy fire broke out last night aboard the Soviet ship "Priamurye" during its stopover in the Japanese port of Osaka. There were 295 Soviet tourists, participants of a youth friendship cruise around Japan, as well as 129 crew onboard the ship.

A TASS correspondent was told at the Soviet General Consulate in Osaka that 11 passengers had died, 1 of whom has not yet been identified. Twenty-six people are now in ths hospital for burns and smoke inhalation. Some of them are in critical condition. Emergency aid is being dispatched to the victims.

Passengers and crew members who were evacuated from the vessel are now in Osaka hotels. According to the Soviet General Consulate, the Soviet ship "Konstantin Chernenko" will arrive on 20 May to pick them up. The Japanese directorate for safety at sea, as well as municipal authorities, are leading a great deal of assistance to the victims. Keizo Obuchi, Japan's chief cabinet secretary, expressed official condolences to the families of the dead at a news conference in Tokyo today, stating his readiness to help the evacuees from "Priamurye" in every way possible.

The fire onboard the ship broke out between 0100 and 0200 and lasted almost 11 hours. The cause of the fire is not yet known. It started in the area of passenger cabins on the second deck in the central part of the vessel. The ship was launched 27 years ago and was meant to be taken off the line later this year.

"Most passengers were already asleep when the alarm bell went off suddenly," cruise director Anatoliy Skrylnik told a TASS correspondent on the telephone. "Flames spread across the ship very quickly, and the cabins were instantly filled with poisonous smoke, but there was no panic, though the situation was a very difficult one and threatened to go out of control."

"Everyone helped save people," said Aleksandr Gribov, leader of a youth tourist group from Kostrama. "We broke through the doors in the smoke and carried out people who were burned. People who were cut off from the exits jumped into the water through the portholes. Our boys managed to push the enormous ship off the pier with their bare hands so it would not crush the people in the water. It is a shame that the first Japanese

fire engine did not arrive until nearly an hour after the alarm was raised. By that time we had already done a lot to evacuate people. The Japanese authorities have been very accomodating and are helping us in every way."

35 Hospitalized, 1 Missing

PM1805142588 [Editorial Report] Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian on 19 May 1988 in its Morning Edition carries on page 6 under the headline "Nighttime Fire" an 18 May Toyko dispatch by own correspondent Sergey Agafonov. In addition to already reported facts about the fire aboard the "Priamurye" in Osaka, the dispatch provides different details than those included in the Moscow TASS International Service report published above in terms of casualties and the response of the Japanese fire authorities. With regard to casualty figures Agafonov writes: "According to available figures, 11 people died, 1 has vanished without trace (there is practically no chance of finding him alive), and 35 have received injuries of various degrees of gravity and have been hospitalized in eight Osaka clinics."

With regard to the Japanese fire authorities response, the correspondent writes: "According to Japanese data, the alarm call reached the fire service dispatcher center at 0153 hours. Special brigades arrived at the scene within minutes, and soon two fire boats were hosing water onto the 'Priamurye' from the sea, whole 33 fire trucks were combating the fire from the shore."

Japanese Reaction to Soviet Afghan Withdrawal

OW1905080588 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1200 GMT 18 May 88

[Potapov report from Tokyo]

[Excerpts] In the past few days, whenever one listened to a Japanese news program, reports on the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan were treated as headlines. [passage omitted]

There have been differing views on the Afghan situation since the Soviet withdrawal, but the media is unanimous in its opinion that the USSR will faithfully abide by the letter and spirit of the Geneva agreement. [passage omitted]

Public opinion also shows a great deal of interest in the Soviet withdrawal. Political, social, and industrial circles have indicated their wish that bloodshed end as soon as possible. They commend the Soviet action as a sign of sincere desire for the normalization of the situation in the Republic of Afghanistan.

Well-known intellectual Yonejiro Saito gave the following comments in this regard: I welcome the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan. The Soviet Government has once again clearly shown that it wants to assume responsibility in resolving the Afghan question from the stand of faithfully abiding by the Geneva agreement. Therefore, it will now all depend on how the United States and Pakistan comply with the Geneva agreement. This is because armed forces depending on foreign aid, due to their opposition to the peace settlement, reject the Geneva agreement and would like to worsen the Afghan situation as much as possible, bringing it to a state of civil war. Thus, it is important to take every measure to smash this plot in order to ensure that the Afghan people can live and work in peace.

DPRK's Kim Il-song Receives Biryukova

LD1905082188 Moscow TASS in English 0740 GMT 19 May 88

[Text] Pyongyang May 19 TASS—Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Korean Workers' Party [KWP] Central Committee and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, today received a visiting CPSU delegation here. The delegation is headed by Aleksandra Biryukova, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

Biryukova spoke about the CPSU activities in carrying out perestroyka and about the preparation for the 19th all-union party conference.

The sides paid great attention to ways of deepening contacts between the CPSU and the KWP, as well as to Soviet-Korean cooperation. They pointed out good prospects for cooperation in the light industry and noted that both sides were interested in making this cooperation more effective through promoting co-production and direct ties between enterprises.

Kim Il-song wished Soviet Communists and the entire Soviet people success in perestroyka.

He said that the people of the DPRK supported the Soviet Union's efforts to avert the nuclear threat and to improve the situation in the Asia-Pacific region and in the whole world. In this context, Kim Il-song expressed the hope that the forthcoming Soviet-American summit would improve the international climate and would impact favourably on developments in the Korean peninsula.

South Korean Ship Violates DPRK Waters

PM1705122588 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 May 88 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Provocations Against the DPRK"]

[Text] Pyongyang, 12 May—Accorrding to a KCNA report, a ship of the South Korean Navy intruded in DPRK territorial waters in an area to the southwest of Cape Changsan-got.

This serious provocation, the report says, was undertaken in the wake of provocative actions by the South Korean side along the republic's land border. A DPRK post came under fire a few days ago, and the illegal

introduction of various weapons, including heavy weapons, within the demilitarized zone continues. These actions, KCNA declares, are undertaken for the purpose of exacerbating the situation in the Korean peninsula. The South Korean side, the news agency emphasizes, bears full responsibility for any possible consequences of the provocations along the DPRK borders.

Seoul Declares No Olympic Events in DPRK

PM1905104988 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 May 88 Morning Edition p 4

[Unattributed report: "Seoul's Position"]

[Text] REUTER reports from Seoul that South Korea has stated that the forthcoming 1988 Olympic Games will be held only on its territory. Seoul has rejected the suggestion that some of the events should be organized in the DPRK. At the same time an invitation has been sent from Seoul to DPRK sportsmen to take part in the Olympic Games.

Briefs

Soviet-Japanese Conference Opens

Khabarovsk, 16 May (TASS)—The fourth Soviet-Japanese conference on timber exports, which opened today here, is devoted to the search for ways to increase the efficiency of timber trade between the USSR and Japan. Those taking part will discuss, specifically, the setting up of joint enterprises for timber processing in the Soviet Far East and Siberia. Large Japanese trade companies—Mitsubisi, Itotu, and Mitsui—and Soviet timber-producing associations are taking part in the work of the conference. [Text] *[LD1705024388 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0625 GMT 16 May 88]*

Southeast Asia & Pacific

Further Reportage on Thai Prime Minister Visit

Received by Gorbachev

LD1805175988 Moscow TASS in English 1740 GMT 18 May 88

[Text] Moscow May 18 TASS—Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev met in the Kremlin today with the prime minister of Thailand, Prem Tinsulanon, in the USSR on an official visit.

Greeting the distinguished guest, Gorbachev expressed the hope that the visit by the head of the Thai Government would promote rleations between the two countries.

The Soviet-Thai negotiations held on these days, he said, matched the general line of the Soviet Union's foreign policy aimed at broadening dialogue and cooperation with all countries and improving the international situation.

This policy rested on principles of new thinking. The Soviet leadership had not only proclaimed them, but had also been consistently converting them into constructive proposals directed at cutting nuclear arsenals, banning chemical weapons and reducing conventional arms.

"We invite all states to look for solutions to outstanding international problems," Gorbachev pointed out.

Tinsulanon said that Thailand showed interest in the processes taking place in this country and viewed with sympathy the Soviet Union's large-scale initiatives in favour of consolidating international peace and security.

The prime minister expressed the Thai Government's interest in developing relations with the Soviet Union in diverse areas.

Proper attention was given in the discussion to the problem of the political settlement in Kampuchea. Both sides agreed that the resolution of the problem could only be secured by political means, by way of talks.

In setting out the Soviet approach to regional problems, Gorbachev emphasised, referring to the experience gained by the international community, that these conflicts, no matter how complicated and protracted, should be resolved along the lines of political settlement. Military solution was out of place.

This related in full measure to the Kampuchean problem as well. It should be settled on the basis of recognition of the realities, with the participation of all forces involved in that conflict in one way or another. Such was also the stance of the USSR's Kampuchean and Vietnamese friends, Gorbachev said.

This problem should be resolved without disregard for the interests of all sides, all sides should move towards one another. A balance of interests was required here. If that approach prevailed, the conflict could be settled quicker. The ASEAN countries, too, including Thailand, could contribute to that.

The Thai prime minister remarked that favourable conditions were now developing for resolving the Kampuchean problem. In this context, he mentioned the forthcoming meeting in Jakarta of the sides interested in the settlement.

Gorbachev said that the Soviet Union highly assessed the ASEAN countries' contribution to resolving international and regional problems. [Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 19 May 1988 in its Second Edition carries on page 1 a similar report on Gorbachev's meeting with the Thai prime minister which renders the preceding sentence as follows: "Gorbachev said that the Soviet Union highly assessed the ASEAN countries' independent

[samostoyatelnyy] contribution to resolving international and regional problems."] The USSR would like to maintain good relations with all member countries of the association.

In view of Thailand's current chairmanship at the ASEAN Standing Committee, the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee conveyed through the prime minister greetings to the leaders of the ASEAN countries and reaffirmed the Soviet Union's sincere desire to cooperate with that organisation.

Tinsulanon conveyed to Gorbachev wishes of success in connection with the forthcoming Soviet-American summit.

Winding up the conversation, Gorbachev expressed the hope that relations between the Soviet Union and Thailand would pick up momentum, thus facilitating the search for new approaches and development of mutually beneficial ties in economy, trade and other fields.

The prime minister invited Gorbachev to visit Thailand. The invitation was accepted with gratitude.

The meeting was attended from the Soviet side by Nikolay Ryzhkov, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and from the Thai side by Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila and Ambassador to the USSR Prachit Rotchanaphruk.

Prem Views Afghan Situation

BK1905070588 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 19 May 88

[Excerpt] According to a Foreign Ministry report, Prem Tinsulanon, prime minister; Sitthi Sawetsila, foreign minister and air chief marshal; M.R. Kasemsamoson Kasemsi, Foreign Ministry permanent secretary; and Prachit Rotchanaphruk, Thai ambassador to Moscow, called on CPSU General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev at the Kremlin at 1430 yesterday. The meeting lasted about an hour. General Prem expressed pleasure with the U.S.-Soviet INF Treaty reached in late 1987 and the coming U.S. summit on a new agreement on strategic nuclear weapons disarmament. He said that the U.S.-Soviet INF Treaty has improved the international political atmosphere.

Referring to settlement of the problem in Afghanistan, from where the withdrawal of Soviet troops began on 15 May, Gen Prem said he felt the 9-year-old Cambodian problem could also be solved. He noted that a main objective of his visit to the Soviet Union was to discuss with the CPSU general secretary cooperation in settlement of the Cambodian problem.

CPSU General Secretary Gorbachev pledged to assist in every way in the search for a political settlement of the Cambodian problem and agreed with Cambodia being a neutral and independent country. He said he is aware of ASEAN's importance. He asked Gen Prem to convey his good wishes to every ASEAN leader. Gen Prem invited the CPSU general secretary to visit Thailand and the latter accepted the invitation. [passage omitted]

Visits Lenin Mausoleum

PM1905111188 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 May 88 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Prime Minister's Stay"]

[Text] On 17 May Prem Tinsulanon, prime minister of the Kingdom of Thailand, who is in Moscow on an official visit, visited the V.I. Lenin Mausoleum and laid a wreath. He honored the memory of the founder of the world's first socialist state.

Paying tribute to the memory of the Soviet servicemen who fell on the battlefields in the struggle against fascism, Prem Tinsulanon laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Warrior at the Kremlin Wall.

B.L. Tolstykh and other officials were with the Thai head of government.

Two Agreements Signed

BK1905020388 Bangkok THE NATION in English 19 May 88 p 1

[Excerpt] Two agreements were reached Tuesday evening during Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon's visit to the Soviet Union, according to a Foreign Ministry press release yesterday.

An agreement on scientific and technological cooperation and a protocol on political consultation were signed by Thai Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila and his Soviet counterpart, Eduard Shevardnadze.

The first agreement, initiated by Moscow in 1975, was drafted and proposed to Thailand during Deputy Soviet Foreign Minister Igor Rogachev's visit to Thailand last month.

Under its terms, both countries will help promote scientific and technological development, including the exchange of information and experts.

The agreement will be in effect after its initial two-year period unless either party notifies the other in writing six months in advance of its intention to abrogate the agrmeement.

The protocol on political consultation, proposed while Rogachev was in Thailand, will allow periodic messages of government officials to create better bilateral understanding. The aide-memoire will be in effect until either party abrogates the protocol. [passage omitted]

News Conference Held

LD1805172188 Moscow TASS in English 1630 GMT 18 May 88

[Text] Moscow May 18 TASS—The current visit to the USSR will be of mutual benefit to the two countries both politically and economically, Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon of the Kingdom of Thailand said here today at a press conference before his departure for Kiev by air. He is currently in the USSR on an official visit.

Speaking of the exchange of views in the Soviet capital on political issues, Prem Tinsulanon pointed out: Thailand and the Soviet Union are unanimous that peace on earth can be established only if all states proceed from 'peaceful moral principles'. "Thailand agrees with the Soviet Union's stand according to which the security of one side cannot be ensured at the expense of the other side".

During the talks in Moscow, Prem Tinsulanon pointed out, the sides arrived at the conclusion that economic relations between Thailand and the Soviet Union were insufficiently developed. "We should seek to increase the volume of trade", the prime minister said.

"We spoke of Kampuchea", Prem Tinsulanon went on to say. "Thailand comes out in favour of establishing peace in that country". In this connection he emphasized that the solution to the problem of Afghanistan was a good example in this respect. If it is possible to settle one regional problem, it means other ones are solvable, too.

Speaking of prospects for the development of relations between Thailand and the Soviet Union, the head of government pointed out that both sides have a desire and striving to develop the relations.

The prime minister of Thailand wished success to the forthcoming meeting between the leaders of the Soviet Union and the United States, the meeting which, he said, "will become yet another step along the road of strengthening peace on earth".

The head of the Government of Thailand highly appreciated the Soviet Union's current policy of restructuring, referring to it as "a good example for other countries".

"This is a very efficient policy which is oriented towards peace. I think that due to it there will be more contacts in the interests of peace", the prime minister of Thailand emphasized in conclusion.

Departs Moscow for Kiev

LD1805154088 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1515 GMT 18 May 88

[Text] Moscow, 18 May (TASS)—Thai Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon left Moscow for Kiev today. He is in the USSR on an official visit at the invitation of the Soviet Government.

Nikolay Ryzhkov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister; and other officials saw him off at Vnukovo Airport.

The state flags of Thailand and the USSR were hoisted at the airport. A guard of honor from the Moscow garrison troops was formed on the tarmac. The band played the anthems of the two countries.

Nikolay Ryzhkov and Prem Tinsulanon inspected the ranks of the Soviet servicemen. The festive farewell ceremony was completed by a march-past of the guard of honor. State flags of the two countries and welcome banners were hoisted along the capital's streets and on the squares along the route to the airport taken by the convoy of vehicles, accompanied by motorcycle outriders.

Boris Tolstykh, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and other officials are accompanying the head of the Thai Government on his trip around the country.

Bostorin Comments on Region's Importance

BK1605012988 Bangkok THE NATION in English 16 May 88 p 9

["Paper" presented by O.V. Bostorin, ambassador, USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, at 12-13 May Thai Foreign Ministry Forum on "Trends and Implications in ASEAN-Major Power Relations"]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] The Asian-Pacific region where two-thirds of mankind live is called upon to play an important role in the improvement of the situation in the world. The situation in this part of the world affects national interests of the USSR which has most of its territory in Asia. We are far from indifferent to how things will go on here. We are interested in a secure Far East also because in the coming years the territory east of the Urals will be the scene of many economic projects of national importance. This is also one of the reasons why the Soviet Union firmly and consistently advocates the idea of making Asia, the region of the Pacific and Indian oceans an arena of peace, good-neighbourly relations and cooperation.

Our vision of a peaceful and secure future for the Asian-Pacific region, our understanding of ways and means to achieve that objective are set forth in the programme of action proposed by General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail S. Gorbachev in his speech in Vladivostok (1986) which was further elaborated and specified in his speeches in Delhi and in his interview to the MERDEKA newspaper. Figuratively speaking the programme rests of three whales [as published]: settlement of regional conflicts, reduction of military confrontation, promotion of bilateral and multilateral cooperation.

Afghanistan and Kampuchea [subhead]

As to the regional framework, which for a long time resembled an endless dark tunnel, some light can now be seen: agreements on the political settlement in Afghanistan were signed in Geneva.

The Afghan experience confirmed the truth that given goodwill of all interested parties, a mutually acceptable solution to the most complex problems can be found. Being divided by profound contradictions over the Afghan question and without giving away national interests, the parties to the Geneva agreements nevertheless managed to strike the required balance which promises a genuine breakthrough in the seemingly endless chain of regional conflicts.

One can state with confidence that observance of the Geneva agreements, contribution by other states to the establishment of peace and national reconciliation in Afghanistan would serve as a good example for the settlement of the existing regional conflicts including the conflict in Kampuchea.

Here also certain promising signs are taking shape in terms of a possible settlement. There is now a firm understanding that this question can be solved only by political means at the table of negotiations. A concrete timetable for the withdrawal of the Vietnamese troops was indicated. And the most important, in our view, is the fact that the idea of national harmony is slowly but steadily making its way. In this regard also, dialogue begins to prevail over confrontation. The results of the meetings between Hun Sen and Sihanouk give hope that the dialogue will further expand though we are mindful that serious difficulties still remain in its way.

As far as the Soviet Union is concerned, it seeks within the measure of its possibilities to contribute to the consolidation of those positive trends, supports any constructive steps initiated both by the countries of Indochina and by the ASEAN member states aimed at reestablishing a just and lasting peace in Southeast Asia.

Within the efforts to limit the arms race in the Asian-Pacific region we undertook a series of unilateral measures the most important of which was the decision to eliminate Soviet intermediate and shorter-range missiles in Asia that was taken in meeting the wishes voiced by the Asian countries. It is also appropriate to mention a partial withdrawal in 1987 of Soviet troops from the Mongolian People's Republic temporarily stationed on its territory.

As is known, the Soviet side also initiated a number of specific proposals on the reduction of Soviet and U.S. naval activities in the Pacific, on a commensurate reduction of the level of ground forces, confidence-building measures and non-use of force in the Asian-Pacific region. Regrettably, we have received no positive response yet from those to whom our initiatives were primarily addressed.

A very important element of the Vladivostok programme in our view is the development of bilateral relations between the countries of the continent. The Soviet Union stands ready to engage in an equitable constructive cooperation with any state of the continent under strict observance of the principles of equality and mutual accommodation of interests, to make its contribution to the all-Asian process. This is, in fact, the political essence of the Vladivostok platform, an invitation to a joint search for equitable cooperation.

Giving a brief assessment of bilateral relations between the USSR and the countries of the Asian-Pacific region, it should be noted that they clearly manifest—though to a different degree—a trend to continued development.

We regard the noticeable intensification of relations and contacts of the Soviet Union with the ASEAN countries as additional evidence that the Vladivostok programme works and is being gradually implemented. This fact is a source of our great satisfaction for it is known that during the first years of its existence ASEAN and the USSR had rather complicated relations. Mutual mistrust and prejudices of the past played a major role in that. To a considerable extent, time has removed these difficulties.

As to the Soviet Union, it follows the present ASEAN activities with interest and sympathy and pays tribute to positive results reached by its member countries in the course of national construction and development of cooperation within the ASEAN framework. One cannot but admit that, having proclaimed 20 years ago the course at economic, social and cultural progress, the countries of the Six, overcoming considerable difficulties, have made significant headway in realizing their goals.

Philippine Senator Cites U.S. 'Subversive' Acts

LD1905083588 Moscow TASS in English 0641 GMT 19 May 88

["Pimentel: USA's Subversive Actions Against the Philippines"—TASS headline]

[Text] Manila May 18 TASS—The United States makes use of the threat to destabilise the internal political situation in the Philippines in order to frustrate the adoption of an anti-nuclear legislation by the country's parliament, the legislation which threatens Washington's long-term interests on the islands of the Philippine Archipelago.

This was stated in the Philippine Congress by Senator Aquilino Pimentel, one of the sponsors of a bill which envisages the introduction of a resolute ban on the use of Philippine territory for the deployment of nuclear weapons.

Washington, having directed its policy with regard to the Philippines towards undermining the anti-nuclear provisions of the country's Constitution, has given greater scope to CIA's undercover operations here, counting on support for the political opponents of the Corazan Aquino administration, Pimentel pointed out.

The Philippine senator said that, beginning from March last year the United States had considerably increased spending on the maintenance of CIA's fixed-post espionage agents in Manila and had sent additionally several tens of CIA agents to the Philippines.

The purpose of the United States is by any means to prevent the adoption of the anti-nuclear bill and to create prerequisites for the maintenance of U.S. military-strategic presence in the Philippines.

SRV Initiative on China Border Talks Supported

OW1805050588 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 0300 GMT 14 May 88

[Nikolayev commentary]

[Text] Vietnam has again proposed to hold talks with China to solve border disputes.

On 12 May, Vietnam's Vice Foreign Minister Dinh Nho Liem received Li Shichun, Chinese ambassador to Vietnam, in Hanoi, and delivered a note to him, suggesting that the two countries hold talks on land and sea boundaries. Station commentator Nikolayev writes in this connection:

Vietnam's new proposal is constructive. It suggests that Hanoi and Beijing appoint representatives to the talks on land and sea boundaries. For this purpose, it is necessary to decide on the time, place, and level of the talks as soon as possible.

Vietnam suggests that both sides stop all hostilities along the common border pending the talks. To prevent clashes, it suggests that the two countries withdraw their troops from the boundary line, and that a joint Vietnam-China committee supervise this matter. The Vietnamese Foreign Ministry reiterated the hope of holding talks with China on the question of boundaries of the islands in the South China Sea. In March this year, Vietnam proposed holding these talks. Its diplomatic initiative again demonstrates Hanoi's good intentions. This also shows that Vietnam is ready to seek political solutions to all issues in the interests of the Vietnamese and Chinese people, and for the sake of peace and safety in this region.

The Soviet Union, which has always favored normalization and improvement of Vietnamese-Chinese relations, supports Vietnam's constructive stand, and hopes that China will actively respond to Vietnam's suggestion this time.

Gorbachev Book Serialized in Thai Magazine

PM1705154788 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 May 88 Second Edition p 1

[Report by own correspondent V. Skvortsov: "Published in Thai"]

[Text] Bangkok, 12 May—The leading Thai political weekly KHAO PHISET has begun publication of M.S. Gorbachev's book "Restructuring and New Thinking for Our Country and the Whole World." The weekly intends to publish it in full. This particular issue of KHAO PHISET has been greeted with tremendous interest by the country's broad public and political circles. For the first time in many decades, Thais are being given an opportunity to study and understand the problems and scale of the changes in and the foreign policy philosophy of the Soviet Union from an original source.

Peace Official Scores U.S.-Australia Facilities

BK1805095588 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0803 GMT 18 May 88

[From the "International Report" program]

[Text] A member of a peace delegation from the Soviet Union which is currently in Australia has said that joint Australia-United States communications facilities cannot contribute to verification of nuclear arms control and testing agreements. The facilities at Pine Gap and Northwest Cape are in Australian territory and are frequently criticized by the antinuclear lobby as making Australia a potential nuclear target in any superpower confrontation. The Australian Government has defended the facilities as, among other things, being important to Australia's defense and to the verification of compliance with international weapons agreements.

This claim has now been disputed by Mr Yuriy Drozdov, the director of the Soviet Peace Committee for Asia, Africa, and the Pacific. Mr Drozdov is in Australia with four other Soviet Peace Committee members in response to an earlier visit by an Australian peace delegation to the USSR. He told our reporter, (Patrina Quinn), that nuclear arms control must be based on trust and confidence.

[Begin recording] [Drozdov] From my own experience traveling between Moscow and Melbourne, I know that the distance is something like 10,000 miles, and verification could hardly be effective at such a distance. Although I've heard explanations to the effect that these installations are needed for verification in the Pacific, I sincerely believe that these bases do not serve anything useful. There have been explanations on many items at

different periods over history that this or that presence was needed to maintain stability of democracy here or there. I believe that we shall gradually come to an understanding that verification is really secondary to trends such as confidence building.

[(Quinn)] The United States and its allies have been criticized by the Soviet Union over their security arrangements. Yet, the Soviet Union under Gorbachev has not hesitated to build up capabilities in the eastern parts of the Soviet Union, a fairly substantial increase.

[Drozdov] Yes, but under the Soviet-American treaty signed last December between Reagan and Gorbachev, all the SS-20 missiles are to be scrapped inside approximately 2-year period, and this is a significant development. I believe that what is important is setting a process in motion. It took us years, [words indistinct] decades, to start any viable negotiation and implementation process in our relationship with the United States. Well, I do remember the period after Reykjavik where the antiwar community in Europe, including the USSR, felt frustrated over the lack of any agreement reached that could have been reached in Reykjavik, and still it took only a little more than a year for the two countries to sign a major agreement—the INF Treaty.

[(Quinn)] What role do you think the Soviet Union can play towards stability in the Pacific?

[Drozdov] The Soviet Union certainly can and should play the role of an important component in this part of the world.

[(Quinn)] Do you think that the Pacific is becoming more unstable?

[Drozdov] Well, I wouldn't say that. The Pacific is very stable because [words indistinct] big events in Fiji last year. Apart from that international situation, elements such as the presence of foreign military bases in the area is instrumental in destabilizing the situation; I believe that. Apart from that, (?local) pressures applied on this or that country—well, and by that I imply the whole story of... [changes thought] system of foreign military bases in the Philippines—which requires a machinery or process of negotiations which must be done in a sober way. There is no place for emotions or accusations the way we saw international relationships only 5 or 10 years ago when state leaders were labelling other countries or other governments and state leaders in a very nasty way.

[(Quinn)] What role do you think the Soviet Union can play in maintaining stability in the Pacific?

[Drozdov] Well, I personally think that being a sober-minded state now, the Soviet Union with its past experience in many peacekeeping efforts in fields such as Afghanistan, our interests with regard to the situation in the Middle East and the (?part) the Soviet Union is trying as an example to play in mediating between Iran and Iraq, our country, like this country and like any other state in the area, should be motivated by a comprehension of not only its national interests but by the whole series of international linkages, connections, and interrelations. [sentence as heard] And this requires a fairly long process, but every country which is engaged in the process must act as guided by internationalistic sentiments—not by only selfish motivations. [end recording]

Near East & South Asia

Commentator Says Afghan Death Figures 'Correct'

AU1905105188 Paris AFP in English 1019 GMT 19 May 88

[Anne Penketh report]

[Text] Moscow, May 19 (AFP)—Western reports that 12,000 to 15,000 Soviet soldiers died during the eight-and-a-half year Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan are "more or less correct", a Soviet political commentator said here Thursday.

It was the first indication by a Soviet official of the number of Soviet casualties since December 1979. Moscow had promised to reveal Soviet troop strength in Afghanistan and how many Soviet soldiers lost their lives when the Soviet withdrawal took place. The estimated 115,000 troops began pulling out from Afghanistan on Sunday under Geneva accords signed on April 14.

In response to a question at a news conference, Soviet political commentator Eduard Rozental quoted different figures given by Western news agencies. He noted that one U.S. report had recently spoken of 80,000 Soviet deaths, TIME magazine of 30,000, UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL news agency 50,000 and AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE 12,000-15,000.

"I think the figures given by AFP are more or less correct," Mr. Rozental said. But he added that "more precise figures" would be given by the Soviet military at a forthcoming news conference.

Mr. Rozental indicated that the figures provided by the Soviet military might be higher, as Afghan rebels had pledged to harass the troops as they withdrew.

Historian Nodari Simoniya, also speaking at Thursday's news conference devoted to aspects of Afghanistan's history, explained that in his view the Soviet Union decided to send its troops into Afghanistan in order to prevent a takeover by Muslim fundamentalists.

He said that on the eve of the 1979 intervention, Afghan opposition forces had a total 250,000 men at arms, while the Communist government in Kabul which took power the previous year only had 80,000 soldiers who were "not in good shape".

"It was clear that the opposition could have crushed the government with powerful backup from outside." Mr. Simoniya said the "most important thing" behind the Kremlin's decision to send in the troops was "to prevent such an easy victory of the fundamentalists in Afghanistan."

The historian maintained that the seeds of the 1979 intervention were sown when the Afghan opposition, including current resistance alliance leader Gulbuddin Hikmatyar, left Afghanistan in the early 1970s and set up bases in Pakistan before the Communist coup d'etat.

Mr. Simoniya replied evasively when asked what the Soviet troops had achieved if they were sent in to prevent the fundamentalists coming to power, and refused to comment on suggestions that the Soviet Union had been defeated in Afghanistan.

The historian was also asked whether Mr. Najibullah's ruling party in Kabul was a Communist or democratic regime—Mr. Najibullah has insisted of late that the ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan is not Communist.

Mr. Simoniya, apparently distancing the Soviet Union from Afghanistan ideologically, replied that it was a "revolutionary democratic party which had not consolidated enough as a revolutionary democratic party, but which wanted to present itself as a Communist Party."

'Mixed' World Reaction to Afghan Pullout

PM1905101288 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 May 88 Second Edition p 5

[Veniamin Shurygin "Viewpoint" article: "At the Center of Attention"]

[Text] Every day the mass media swamp people with a torrent of reports on events taking place in the world. Many of them go almost unnoticed, others prompt a reaction in particular countries or regions, others again become the center of attention for the world community and evoke the liveliest interest on all continents. One such event was the coming into force of the Geneva agreements on a political settlement of foreign aspects of the Afghan problem. That is only natural. What is happening in and around Afghanistan today will undoubtedly have a major influence on the development of the situation not only in that country and region, but throughout the world.

On the whole the essence of the reports and commentaries on this emotive subject amount to saying that through the efforts of a number of countries a breakthrough has been made in the cause of settling the regional conflict and that the Geneva agreements on Afghanistan are becoming a reality, inspiring confidence in the possibility of unblocking other conflict situations also.

Prominent foreign statesmen and politicians, attaching great significance to the Geneva agreements on Afghanistan, call on all sides to strictly fulfill the commitments made. Thus in a foreword to a special report of the Senate Judiciary Committee of the U.S. Congress headed "Afghanistan: Peace and Repatriation?," Senator Edward Kennedy stresses that at this important stage all the interested parties should do everything to oppose the attempts of those who would like to undermine the Geneva agreements or continue the conflict... The United States, the senator writes, must use all the levers at its disposal to support the efforts of UN representative Cordovez toward forming a provisional government in Afghanistan.

Of course, those people in the West who find it hard to adopt the new thinking in the approach to problems of international life and who are totally unable to rid themselves of the stereotypes of the past try to assess today's events in and around Afghanistan with the help of the old, confrontation cliches. Prominent representatives of official Washington, for instance, while welcoming the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan, at the same time emphasize in every way their sympathies with the rebels and promise to continue to give them help and support in the struggle to come to power in the country. People in the West have now set about creating a model of the country's future which, by all appearances, is like an equation with a great many unknowns—the United States, in particular, would like to see a government formed by the opposition in Afghanistan. But some people in Washington are clearly frightened by the fierce Muslim fundamentalism of the opposition's extremist wing, represented by such leaders as Gulbuddin Hikmatyar, leader of the "Alliance of Seven," and also Yunis Khalis and Rabbani, who have received the lion's share of American weapons.

Countries in the planet's other "hot spots"—South Africa, Central America, the Indochinese peninsula—are following very attentively the development of the situation in Afghanistan. Especially those whose governments, as in Nicaragua, are pursuing a policy of national reconciliation, and also those which, like Angola, seek talks with the opposing parties in the interests of a settlement of the situation in the region. It is entirely natural for the peoples of these countries to warmly welcome every step along the path of restoring peace and tranquillity on Afghan soil.

On the eve of the entry into force of the Geneva agreements, Afghan President Najibullah made an official visit to India. The results leave no room for doubt that the biggest of the nonaligned countries supports the policy of national reconciliation pursued by the Afghan Government, a policy aimed at restoring peace and building an independent, sovereign, and nonaligned Afghanistan. Indian Prime Minister R. Gandhi, describing the Geneva agreements as "historic," declared his

country's readiness to give support to Afghanistan's economic revival and its entry into the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC).

There is a mixed reaction to Afghan events in Pakistan—a country which has an important role in the political settlement. It is well known that Pakistan was the main bridgehead for the undeclared war against Afghanistan. According to reports coming in, preparations are now under way there for the voluntary evacuation of Afghan refugees, and other measures are being adopted to fulfill the Geneva accords. Pakistani Foreign Minister Zain Noorani, while in Moscow on a working visit, stated that Pakistan would not want its territory to be used for the delivery of weapons intended for hostile actions regarding a neighboring state. He stressed that Islamabad intends strictly to fulfill its commitments on noninterference in Afghanistan in internal affairs under the Geneva accords. Concern is caused, however, by certain other statements, in which it is not excluded that Pakistani territory could continue to be used for deliveries of American and other weapons to Afghan rebels. Incidentally, Western agencies report from Pakistan that truck columns carrying weapons are heading for the Afghan border one after another.

The position of Iran, where there are a significant number of Afghan refugees and from where subversive military operations against Afghanistan are also conducted, has some influence on the process of settling the Afghan problem. Now Tehran, on the one hand, welcomes the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan, but on the other expresses open solidarity with the extremist wing of the opposition, approving its uncompromising position.

For all the diversity of approaches to the Afghan problem, among the states of the world community there is virtually no country that does not approve the Geneva agreements on Afghanistan and welcome the start of their implementation. This is a sign of the times, when the new thinking is entering people's consciousness increasingly deeply, determining the approach to the settlement of the most important problems of contemporary international development.

Mayorov Comments on Pakistani 'Terrorist Acts'

LD1805141888 Moscow World Service in English 1100 GMT 18 May 88

[Text] In Kabul on Tuesday the Afghan Foreign Ministry handed to a group of United Nations observers a note in connection with Pakistan's failure to comply with the Geneva accords. Large arms consignments had been delivered to its border regions harboring the camps of Afghan opposition units. Mikhail Mayorov comments:

It seems that for some people the war did not end on 15th May, when the Geneva accords on a settlement in Afghanistan went into effect, but only entered a new, perhaps the most dramatic stage. Kabul, Jalalabad, and other Afghan cities were subjected to missile fire. Cars with explosives were blown up in the streets. Everybody knows who are the victims of these acts: women, children, and other civilians. It is they who largely account for the list of casualties. It is also well known who carries out acts of terrorism and who is trying to escalate hostilities.

Extremists acting in answer to the belligerent calls of the so-called Peshawar seven are responsible for the blood of innocent people, for the procrastination of the fratricidal conflict. The responsibility lies not only with those who directly perpetrate terrorist acts. The latest developments have shown that the United States did not stop its aid to the armed Afghan opposition. Moreover, it increased the dimensions of aid.

The Peshawar Seven intend to use the mortars, missiles, and other weaponry shipped to the camps located on the Afghan border in their struggle against the Kabul Government. Does this signify compliance with the principles of noninterference and nonintervention stated in the Geneva accords on the part of Washington and Islamabad? The answer to this question presents interest not only from a purely diplomatic viewpoint. For millions of Afghans it signifies either continuation of the conflict or the coming of long-awaited peace. Let us hope that all who are involved in the development of events would take into account this purely human aspect of the burning Afghan issue.

Noorani's Moscow Talks 'Thorough, Candid'

LD1705132888 Moscow TASS in English 1140 GMT 17 May 88

[Text] Moscow May 17 TASS—Soviet First Deputy Foreign Minister Yuliy Vorontsov today received Pakistani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Zain Noorani, who is here on a working visit, and Pakistani MP's accompanying him.

A thorough and candid exchange of opinions took place on Soviet-Pakistani relations and on international problems of mutual interest.

Special attention was paid to the realization of the Geneva agreements on Afghanistan.

The Soviet side stressed that the USSR and Afghanistan, as follows, in particular, from their joint statement of May 15, are acting in strict compliance with the Geneva accords and are prepared to fulfil the commitments they have made.

The hope was expressed that Pakistan and other parties to the agreements will do everything unfailingly as well to resolve the pivotal issue of settling the situation related to Afghanistan—that of renouncing intervention and putting an end to outside meddling in the Afghans' internal affairs.

The Geneva agreements contain perfectly concrete and unambiguous obligations on this score: interference must be stopped and the very material base for it must be eliminated.

The fulfilment of these and other provisions of the Geneva accords would make it easier, the Soviet side is convinced, to settle the domestic aspects of the Afghanistan problem, to help restore peace on Afghan soil, to facilitate the return of Afghan refugees from Pakistan to their home parts, and be conducive to strengthening an atmosphere of peace and trust in south west Asia. This would be in the interest of the Pakistani people as well.

The sides agreed that in present-day conditions good prospects are emerging for developing bilateral relations between the USSR and Pakistan in a spirit of goodneighborliness and multifarious cooperation in the interest of the peoples of both countries and peace in Asia and the world as a whole.

Islamabad Cites Talks

BK1905051088 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 19 May 88

[Text] The Pakistani delegation led by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Zain Noorani and a team of Soviet Foreign Ministry experts led by First Deputy Foreign Minister Yuliy Vorontsov held formal talks in Moscow on various matters concerning bilateral relations in an atmosphere of goodwill and cooperation. The two sides expressed their policy of compliance with the Geneva accords for a comprehensive settlement of the Afghanistan problem.

The Pakistani minister of state for foreign affairs reiterated Pakistan's policy which calls for a thorough review of the Geneva accords, including those on symmetry and early negotiations among the Afghan people, to enable the Afghans to form a government of their own choice.

At the meeting it was also decided to restart the process of consultations—which had to be discontinued for some time—between the foreign ministers of the two countries on regional and international issues before the beginning of the UN General Assembly session every year.

The two sides appreciated the efforts of President Reagan and Gorbachev to reach an understanding on nuclear arms reduction. They also agreed that Pakistan and the Soviet Union should cooperate with each other in worldwide efforts toward nuclear disarmament.

In an interview with Radio Moscow, Zain Noorani said he came to Moscow heading a goodwill delegation to USSR. He said Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo is paying special attention to improving bilateral relations with the Soviet Union, and he desires to see the Soviet Union and Pakistan work together for the establishment of peace in the region.

Answering a question, Zain Noorani said traditionally Pakistan and the Soviet Union enjoy good relations. In the past, the Soviet Union completed several projects in Pakistan. He said Pakistan-Soviet relations did witness some complications during the past 10 years because of the situation concerning Afghanistan, but their contacts had never been cut off completely. Following the signing of the Geneva accords, both Pakistan and the Soviet Union can now hope for mutually beneficiab and constructive relations between them. The Geneva accords are the result of the understanding, spirit of cooperation, and the patience and restraint demonstrated by all parties concerned. The Soviet leader, Gorbachev, had played an important role in this connection, Zain Noorani added.

Egypt's 'Abd al-Majid Arrives in Moscow

LD1905142788 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 19 May 88

[Text] At the invitation of the Soviet Government, 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs of the Arab Republic of Egypt, arrived in Moscow today on an official visit. At the airport he was met by Comrade Vedernikov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, Comrade Vorontsov, first deputy USSR minister of foreign affairs, and other officials.

Further on Visit by YAR's Al-'Attar

Talks With Demichev

PM1905113288 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 May 88 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report under the general heading "Meetings in the Kremlin"]

[Text] On 17 May P.N. Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, received M.S. al-'Attar, member of the Standing Committee of the General People's Congress and deputy prime minister of the YAR [Yemen Arab Republic], in the Kremlin, at his request.

Topical international problems and questions of Soviet-North Yemeni relations were discussed.

On behalf of the YAR leadership M.S. al-'Attar assessed highly the Soviet Union's role in achieving a political settlement over Afghanistan and stressed the importance of the unconditional fulfillment of the provisions of the Geneva agreements by all sides.

P.N. Demichev briefed the guest on the course of restructuring in the USSR, which is aimed at accelerating the country's socioeconomic development and democratizing and renewing all aspects of Soviet

society's life, and on the preparations for the 19th all-union party conference. The importance of the forthcoming Soviet-U.S. summit meeting in Moscow was stressed.

The interlocutors noted with satisfaction the successful, progressive development of traditional friendly ties between the USSR and the YAR and came out in favor of their further expansion and strengthening.

On the Soviet side, a positive attitude was expressed toward the accords reached during the recent meeting of the YAR and PDRY leaders on questions of inter-Yemeni relations, accords which meet the vital interests of the Yemeni people and promote the strengthening of stability and peace in the south of the Arabian peninsula and the establishment of the new political thinking in resolving international issues.

Taking part in the talk, which took place in a friendly, frank [otkrovennyy] atmosphere, were V.V. Popov, USSR ambassador to the YAR, and 'Abd al-'Uthman, YAR ambassador to the USSR.

Meets With Maslyukov

PM1905101888 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 May 88 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Developing Cooperation"]

[Text] On 17 May Yu.D. Maslyukov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and chairman of the USSR Gosplan, received M.S. al-'Attar, who conveyed a message from YAR [Yemen Arab Republic] President 'A.'A. Salih to M.S. Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary.

An exchange of opinions took place on a wide range of questions of the present-day international situation, the situation in the Near and Middle East region, and USSR-YAR relations.

The sides expressed satisfaction with the state of Soviet-Yemeni cooperation in various spheres, and came out in favor of its further expansion and deepening.

M.S. al-'Attar spoke of the results of talks between the YAR and PDRY [People's Democratic Republic of Yemen] leaders in Sanaa 3-4 May.

On the Soviet side, satisfaction was expressed in connection with the fact that the two Yemeni states, with each of which the Soviet Union has friendly relations, have taken an important new step along the path of strengthening mutual understanding and cooperation.

Taking part in the talk, which took place in a businesslike, friendly atmosphere, were V.V. Popov, USSR ambassador to the YAR, and 'Abd al-'Uthman, YAR ambassador to the USSR.

Further on Meetings

JN1805081388 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 17 May 88

[Text] An expanded meeting was held in Moscow today between our country, led by Brother Dr Muhammad Sa'id al-'Attar, deputy prime minister, minister of development, head of the Central Organ of Planning, and Standing Committee member; and (Silikov), first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and Politburo candidate member [title as heard]. During the meeting, they discussed bilateral relations, reviewed all aspects of economic and technical cooperation, and studied the work of the joint economic committee in order to expand cooperation and reinforce relations. Dr al-'Attar praised bilateral relations and stressed our country's desire to promote them in favor of both countries' interests. The meeting was attended on the Yemeni side by YAR Ambassador in Moscow 'Abd al-'Uthman and a number of embassy officials. It was attended on the Soviet side by Admiral (Graysh), deputy minister of foreign economic relations [title as heard]; (Tachev), second deputy minister of foreign economic relations [title as heard]; Polyakov, chief of the Near Eastern and North African Countries Administration at the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and Soviet Ambassador to the YAR Veniamin Popov.

SABA [Saba News Agency] has learned that during the meeting, Dr al-'Attar conveyed a message to the Soviet leaders from Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, secretary general of the General People's Congress.

Petr Demichev, Politburo candidate member and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, received at the Kremlin today Brother Dr Muhammad Sa'id al-'Attar, deputy prime minister, minister of development, head of the Central Organ of Planning, and Standing Committee member. Dr al-'Attar conveyed the greetings of President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih to the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

During the meeting, they discussed Yemeni-Soviet relations and the pressing international issues, including the Middle East situation, the Palestinian Arab people's cause, the Iraq-Iran war and efforts to end it in accordance with Security Council Resolution No 598. The two sides noted with satisfaction the successful development in the traditional and cordial friendship between our country and the Soviet Union as well as ways to promote and expand it.

The Soviet side expressed its appreciation for the unity agreement reached in Sanaa recently between the leaders of the two parts of the homeland—a unity which is in harmony with the basic interests of the Yemeni people and which helps to bring stability and peace to the region. The Soviet side voiced its thanks to our political leadership under Colonel President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih.

It also expressed appreciation for our country's foreign policy, its role in the Nonaligned Movement, and its positions on the various international issues.

East Europe

Shevardnadze Receives CSSR's Johanes

PM1905102088 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 May 88 Second Editi[illegible] p 4

[TASS report: "Consultations Held"]

[Text] On 17 May E.A. Shevardnadze, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and USSR foreign minister, received J. Johanes, CSSR first deputy foreign minister, who has arrived in Moscow for consultations. During the talk, which took place in a warm, friendly atmosphere, there was an exchange of opinions on topical international problems and questions of the further development of Soviet-Czechoslovak relations.

Johanes Meets Vorontsov

LD1805200688 Prague CTK in English 1601 GMT 18 May 88

[Text] Moscow May 18 (CTK correspondent)—International topics, expansion of Czechoslovak-Soviet cooperation and improvement of cooperation between the Czechoslovak and Soviet Foreign Ministries were on the agenda of consultations held in Moscow from May 16 to 18.

The talks were held between Czechoslovak First Deputy Foreign Minister Jaromir Johanes, Soviet First Deputy Foreign Minister Yuliy Vorontsov and Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Ivan Aboimov.

Nikonov Continues Working Visit to SFRY

Meets Sogorov, Visits Farm Fair

PM1905113488 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 May 88 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "On a Working Visit"]

[Text] Belgrade, 17 May—V.P. Nikonov, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and CPSU Central Committee secretary, who is in Yugoslavia on a working visit, today met with M. Sogorov, president of the Presidium of the Vojvodina Province LCY Committee.

During the conversation, the great significance was stressed of further widening mutually advantageous ties in the economy, in particular in the agro-industrial complex. It was noted that Vojvodina, which is considered Yugoslavia's granary, now ranks second in total Yugoslav exports of agricultural and food industry output to the Soviet Union.

The Soviet guest visited the international agriculture fair in Novi Sad, in which some 1,600 firms from 73 countries are taking part, and studied the latest achievements of agricultural production. The Soviet Union, represented by the Traktoroeksport association, is exhibiting various types of wheeled and track-laying tractors and agricultural machines at the fair. The association recently signed a contract to supply 900 tractors to the SFRY.

In Belgrade, V.P. Nikonov met with the leadership of the Yugoslav consortium for cooperation with the USSR in the sphere of the agro-industrial complex and representatives of industrial enterprises and foreign trade organizations. M. Vjelovic, chairman of the consortium, spoke of the development of direct production ties between Yugoslav firms and agro-industrial combines and associations in the Soviet Union in the sphere of primary and final production of agricultural products, joint capital investments in the sphere of modern technologies and equipment for the production and processing of agricultural produce, and the participation of SFRY organizations in the creation and development of 26 agro-industrial combines in the USSR.

Visits Granary

LD1705223688 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 17 May 88

[Video report by correspondents A. Shakin and A. Grigoryev, identified by screen caption, from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] [Shakin] Comrade Nikonov's working visit to Yugoslavia continues. Comrade Nikonov is currently familiarizing himself in depth and comprehensively with Yugoslav agriculture. Ways of deepening our ties in this area are under discussion. This is the Wheat Institute, on the outskirts of the town of Novi Sad in Vojevodina, the country's most fertile grain area. The latest strains are under cultivation at the experimental sections. Selection specialists say that strains of wheat yielding up to 100 quintals per hectare have of late been reared here. Ten strains of Yugoslav wheat are currently undergoing tests on our fields. Viktor Petrovich Nikonov was interested in questions of the organization of scientific work—the institute has been operating on the basis of the principles of self-financing for more than 25 years.

The International Agricultural Fair is about to open, for the 55th time in Novi Sad, and 1,600 combines and associations from 75 countries are displaying their produce here. Naturally, the fair is the venue for exhibiting what is currently the best in the Yugoslav "green industry." A good cooperative experience exists between the Beograd Agricultural Combine and the Kuban Agro-Complex. What is currently at stake, however, is a new scope and new quality. A number of Soviet and Yugoslav enterprises are working to establish direct ties. Comrade

Nikonov showed special interest in the processing of agricultural output. The latest mechanization methods attracted the Soviet guest's attention.

At a meeting in Belgrade with Stefan Korosec, member of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, they noted that the development of the agricultural complex occupies one of the most important positions in the economic transformation of both our countries. That is why ties in this sphere are of special significance.

Soviet-Yugoslav cooperation is increasing. As was emphasized at the meeting, Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's recent visit to Yugoslavia gave a powerful momentum to the development of our relations. Now the accords that were reached are being put into practice.

[Grigoryev] Today Comrade Nikonov met with Sogorov, president of the Presidium of Vojevodina LC Provincial Committee. During the conversation, the important significance of further expanding mutually advantageous ties in the economy and, in particular in the agroindustrial complex, was emphasized.

In Belgrade, Comrade Nikonov had a meeting with the management of a Yugoslav consortium cooperating with the USSR in the agro-industrial complex sphere. He met representatives of industrial enterprises and foreign trade organizations.

Meets Krunic

LD1805135988 Moscow TASS in English 1300 GMT 18 May 88

[Text] Belgrade May 18 TASS—Bosko Krunic, president of the Presidium of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia Central Committee, today received Viktor Nikonov, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, in Yugoslavia on an working visit.

The sides exchanged information on topical issues of the situation in the USSR and Yugoslavia, on the activity of the two parties on preparing the 19th All-Union Conference of the CPSU and a nation-wide conference of the LCY.

Both sides positively assessed relations between the CPSU and the LCY, between the USSR and Yugoslavia, pointing out that there were great opportunities for the further development of mutually beneficial cooperation in all spheres, including the agro-industrial complex.

Concludes Visit

PM1905132188 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 May 88 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Visit Over"]

[Text] Belgrade, 18 May—B. Krunic, chairman of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, today received V.P. Nikonov, Politburo member and CPSU Central Committee secretary, who is paying a working visit to Yugoslavia.

There was a mutual exchange of information on topical questions of the situation in the USSR and the SFRY and the activity of the CPSU and the LCY in preparation for the 19th all-union party conference and the LCY national conference.

The sides rated positively the relations between the CPSU and the LCY and the USSR and the SFRY and pointed out that great potential exists for the further development of mutually beneficial cooperation including in the sphere of the agro-industrial complex.

S. Stojanovic, executive secretary of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, and V.F. Maltsev, USSR ambassador to the SFRY, were present at the conversation.

Today V.P. Nikonov visited Osijek (Croatia), where he was familiarized with the work of the local agro-industrial combine. Thanks to well-organized seed cultivation, a scientific approach, and the introduction of a new technique for growing agricultural crops the combine has been achieving big harvests of wheat, corn, sugar beet, sunflowers, and fruit year after year. The enterprise not only produces and processes the main types of agricultural output but also trades on a significant scale. Recently the combine supplied the USSR with 115,000 tonnes of feed corn and 1,100 tonnes of seed corn via Yugoslav firms.

V.P. Nikonov flew from Osijek to Moscow today.

He was seen off at the airport by S. Stojanovic, executive secretary of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, and other officials

V.P. Nikonov was greeted at Moscow airport by L.N. Zaykov, Politburo member and CPSU Central Committee secretary and first secretary of Moscow CPSU Gorkom, I.I. Skiba, chief of the CPSU Central Committee Agriculture and Food Industry department, R.P. Fedorov, deputy chief of a CPSU Central Committee department, and other officials.

The welcoming party included M. Veres, SFRY ambassador to the USSR.

Danube Pollution by Soviet Equipment Denied

PM1905120788 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 May 88 Morning Edition p 4

[Interview with Yu. Denisov, department chief of the USSR Ministry of the Chemical Industry's 'Soyuzkhimeksport,' by correspondent V. Zakharko: "Measures Are Being Taken on the Ecological Situation in Ruse City"; date and place of interview not given—first two paragraphs are IZVESTIYA introduction]

[Text] A difficult ecological situation (IZVESTIYA No 85) has taken shape in the Bulgarian city of Ruse on the Danube and is being linked to the chemical combine on

the opposite, Romanian, bank, near Giurgiu City, constructed in the early eighties with the use of Soviet equipment for part of the production facility.

From the outset Yu. Denisov, department chief of the USSR Ministry of the Chemical Industry's "Soyuzkhimeksport," took part in the creation of this combine and has a good knowledge of its present technical state. An IZVESTIYA correspondent talks with him today.

[Zakharko] To what did the Soviet side's assistance in constructing the combine in Giurgiu specifically amount?

[Denisov] First of all I want to say that it is a very large complex which includes many production facilities. But only two of them—the caustic soda and liquid chlorine facilities—were installed following a Soviet plan and fitted with our equipment, the others were created by the Romanian side and a number of foreign firms. They include in particular the production facility for synthetic hydrochloric acid, carbon tetrachloride, and perchlorethylene and several production facilities using chlorine, in particular epichlorohydrin.

[Zakharko] How ecologically safe are the two production facilities in which Soviet equipment is installed?

[Denisov] Exactly the same equipment is used in our country and everywhere, in Cheboksary, for instance, it completely rules out the discharge of chlorine gas into the atmosphere.

[Zakharko] Is the Soviet side now rendering assistance in ensuring the combine's reliable and ecologically safe operation?

[Denisov] Back in the fall of 1986 our engineers sent to Romania carried out, in conjunction with Romanian specialists, a detailed investigation of the technical state of the production facilities constructed with the USSR's participation. Measures were elaborated and agreed for the stabilization and modernization of production. A contract was soon concluded between the two countries for the delivery of the necessary materials and equipment from the USSR in 1987-1989. The Soviet side is completely fulfilling its commitments.

With a view to constantly monitoring the course of the implementation of the jointly agreed measures, a Soviet-Romanian temporary working group has been created, headed on our side by V.M. Romanov, deputy minister of the chemical industry. This group meets every quarter, in Romania and the USSR alternately. That much has already been done is borne out by the fact that from the end of last year through to the present not a single case of the discharge of chlorine gas from the production facility where the Soviet equipment is operating has been recorded.

Naturally, we can make no comment on the other production facilities created without the USSR's participation.

Demichev Meets With PPR Cultural Delegation

PM1905132788 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 May 88 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Strengthening Ties"]

[Text] P.N. Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, received a delegation from the Polish National Cultural Council headed by council chairman B. Suchodolski in the Kremlin 18 May.

In an atmosphere of fraternal friendship and mutual understanding there was an exchange of opinions on a broad range of questions connected with the development of culture, the expansion of cultural ties between the Soviet Union and Poland, and the enhancement of the role of the creative intelligentsia in the process of the present-day progressive transformations in the two countries.

It was noted that the strengthening contacts between the Soviet Culture Foundation and the Polish National Cultural Council are contributing to the consolidation of multifaceted Soviet-Polish cooperation.

W. Natorf, Polish ambassador to the USSR, took part in the conversation.

West Europe

UK Defense 'White Paper' Makes 'Irksome' Claims

PM1905132988 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 19 May 88 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Claim for 'Modernization'"]

[Text] London, 18 May—Three Polaris nuclear submarines are depicted on the cover of the latest defense "White Paper" presented by G. Younger, head of the British military department. It would be difficult to find a more apt image to express the essence of this document. Eulogies for nuclear weapons pour from the pages of the "White Paper," which informs us of the British Government's plans to increase military spending in the next fiscal year from 18,782,000,000 to 19,215,000,000 pounds sterling.

The publication also contains many assertions concerning the USSR's supposed superiority in the conventional arms sphere—in tanks, in aircraft, and, naturally, in everything else as well. By all accounts, however, the government only needed these irksome claims in order to justify its unconstructive stand on the elimination of

nuclear weapons in Europe. G. Younger confirmed that London intends to carry out the "modernization" of its air force's nuclear means and substitute air-launched missiles for nuclear bombs.

UK's Howe Criticized for Views on Scandinavia

PM1705145788 PRAVDA in Russian
14 May 88 First Edition p 5

[Own correspondent Yu. Kuznetsov article: "Strange Logic"]

[Text] Stockholm, 13 May—Geoffrey Howe, British secretary of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs, has arrived in Sweden on a visit. He has had a meeting with the country's leadership and held a series of conversations with them—mainly on East-West relations and the situation in the "Common Market." The minister noted when addressing a news conference that there is now a great deal in East-West relations that should be welcomed.

But when discussing the desirability of strengthening security on the European Continent, he made some very original comments on Nordic countries' plans to create a nuclear-free zone in the region. G. Howe certainly did not speak of the zone as something favored by the people living in northern Europe, particularly by the majority of Swedes. It turns out that this zone is being forced on the Scandinavians by Moscow. But in that case, one asks, what about the Finnish, Swedish, and Danish initiatives on this issue that are common knowledge? Or perhaps the massive antinuclear movement in those countries consists of visiting Soviet diplomats or artistes who get on with their official job (as a cover, of course) in their spare time between antiwar demonstrations on the streets of Stockholm and Copenhagen? And the Nordic countries' interparliamentary commission to promote the idea of the zone? Has that, too, been set up on instructions from the Russians?

It was also amazing to hear how categorically the British minister condemned the Danish parliamentary decision regarding foreign warships capable of carrying nuclear weapons. In fact, the Danes have committed their government to informing the captains of such ships of the official Danish position, which does not allow nuclear weapons to be stationed on the country's territory in peacetime.

"Our rule is not to respond to this kind of approach," G. Howe said, "and we would like this rule to continue."

A curious remark. Of course, Denmark is not a big country, but it is still very shabby treatment that leading NATO figures sometimes mete out to their smaller partners. Or perhaps the British guest thinks that even these Danish decisions (like Swedish attempts to reduce the nuclear danger) are the result of "pressure from the East?"

Komplektov Meets UK Foreign Ministry Official

PM1705122988 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
13 May 88 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Exchange of Opinions"]

[Text] Consultations with R. Fearn, assistant under secretary of state at the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office, took place in the USSR Foreign Ministry.

R. Fearn was received by USSR Deputy Foreign Minister V.G. Komplektov.

Cooperation Discussed With British, Finns

LD1405024588 Moscow TASS in English 2309 GMT
13 May 88

[Text] Moscow May 13 TASS—Time calls for new forms of cooperation between Western business circles and their Soviet partners. This was the subject of a meeting of British, Finnish and Soviet businessmen, held at the building of the British-Soviet Chamber of Commerce in Moscow today.

They examined the practical aspect of setting up Finnish-British consortiums for building industrial projects in the Soviet Union.

Finnish firms have a big experience in building projects in the Soviet Union, but they do not produce any machines and equipment, Tapio Vilkama, first secretary of the Embassy of Finland in Moscow, and one of the meeting's organisers, told TASS.

At the same time, British firms are very strong exactly in that type of products. The pooling of efforts by the two countries would make it possible to raise the competitiveness of proposals offered by Finnish-British consortiums to Soviet partners, especially in the light and food industries.

Incidentally, Finnish builders already have a positive experience in attracting other Western firms to act as subcontractors in building plants in Soviet Estonia and the Ukraine.

Demichev Presents Award to Finnish Envoy

LD1805172088 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian
1300 GMT 18 May 88

[Text] In the Kremlin today Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, presented Karhilo, Finnish ambassador to the USSR, with the Order of Peoples' Friendship, which he merits for active participation in the development of relations of friendship, good-neighborliness, and all-around cooperation between the Soviet Union and Finland.

Cordially congratulating the ambassador on the high award, Comrade Demichev stressed that the Soviet Union has always paid special attention to the building of relations with its northern neighbor, Finland. The unshakable foundation of our relationship is the Soviet-Finnish Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance.

Receiving the order, Karhilo expressed gratitude to the Soviet leadership for its high appreciation of his activity and noted the importance for his country of the development of good-neighborly cooperation with the USSR.

Following the presentation ceremony, Comrades Demichev and Karhilo held a friendly conversation.

Militia Abets Robbery of Finnish Tourists

PM1805150188 Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 17 May 88 p 7

[Stefan Lundberg dispatch: "Robber Gangs in Estonia Worry Travel Agencies. Collusion With the Militia Suspected"]

[Text] Helsinki—Tourists in Tallinn are being robbed almost daily by Estonian gangs clearly being protected by the militia. Finnish travel agencies are convinced of this. Obvious cases are never cleared up by the militia, which is said to be in collusion with the criminals.

The travel agencies are taking such a serious view of the growing crime in Estonia that the matter will be raised when the head of Intourist's north European section comes to Helsinki this week.

Tourists who have visited Tallinn are able to relate dozens of cases in which robbers have forced their way into hotel rooms or in which tourists have been robbed on the open street. When the cases have been reported to the militia, they have been totally uninterested in looking into them, despite the fact that the victims have often been able to point out the guilty parties. Stolen money, clothes, and cameras have never been recovered.

In several cases, it has been clear that the criminals were working with the militia. An unsuspecting tourist was suddenly surrounded by so-called "jobbers" [jobbare], black market sharks, who more or less forced them to exchange money on the black market. Once the exchange had taken place, militia men suddenly appeared. In some back room the tourists were forced give to the militia men all the rubles they had exchanged and also pay a 100 ruble fine. The fines were paid direct to the militia men.

"In the middle of the day, I was suddenly attacked by a man in the restroom of Hotel Viru. He knocked me to the ground without any warning. When I got to my feet, bleeding two militia men were standing in front of me. They dragged me down into the hotel cellars," an engineer told DAGENS NYHETER.

The engineer was kept locked in the cellars for more than 10 hours. According to his story, he was perfectly sober when the incident in the restroom took place. After "interrogation" and on-the-spot fines, the militia men released him with a kick up the backside.

"It was an awful experience and clearly arranged. No one asked about the man who attacked me. The militia men simply said that I was a 'hooligan' who had caused trouble," the engineer said.

Several similar stories recently confirm that the militia uses brutal methods to frighten tourists into paying their "fines" immediately and without receiving receipts.

A Swedish tourist who was taken to a detoxification station when slightly drunk was missing 2,500 kronor when he was sent on his way.

The rooms in the big Viru and Olympia Hotels do not have security chains on the doors, and the gangs enter the rooms day and night using their own keys. In many cases, the guest has been in the room when the intruders paid their visit. Many a guest has returned from breakfast to discover that money and camera were missing.

Prostitution flourishes freely in Tallinn, and much crime is connected with it. The prostitutes "roll" their drunken clients in their hotel rooms. It is reported that the militia often interprets the thefts as "payment" for the women's services.

The Finnish travel industry is convinced that the Estonian mafia has protectors in high places. Complaints to ministries result in a shrug of the shoulders.

In the past the Finns' tendency to be the victims of crime has been put down to the fact that they are often so inebriated that they fall victim to all tricksters. Travel agencies are now worried because it is becoming increasingly common that sober and "decent" tourists are finding themselves in difficulties.

Latvian Communist Delegation Arrives in Sweden

LD1505223288 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1423 GMT 15 May 88

[Text] Stockholm, 15 May (TASS)—A CPSU delegation headed by B.K. Pugo, first secretary of the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee, arrived here today at the invitation of the leadership of the Left Party—Communists of Sweden (LPC).

During the visit which is being carried out within the framework of regular contacts between the two parties, the delegation will have talks with the leadership of the LPC and will visit the cities of Norrkoeping and Goeteborg.

FRG's Vogel Discusses Soviet Trip, Party Tasks

PM1805130388 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 May 88 Morning Edition p 4

[Interview with Hans-Jochen Vogel, chairman of the Social Democratic Party of Germany, by S. Guk and V. Lysenko: "To Remain Trailblazers. What Prospects Does H.-J. Vogel, Chairman of the Social Democratic Party of Germany, See for Soviet-West German Cooperation"; no date or place given—first paragraph is IZVESTIYA introduction]

[Text] Hans-Jochen Vogel visited the USSR on 10-13 May at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee. The program of his visit abounded with meetings and conversations, including a reception by M.S. Gorbachev. Before his departure, H.-J. Vogel replied to IZVESTIYA's questions.

[IZVESTIYA] During your meeting with M.S. Gorbachev, you made a series of proposals on cooperation, especially in the economic sphere. The Social Democratic Party of Germany [SPD] is not in the government at present. What opportunities does an opposition party have in the economic sphere?

[Vogel] The FRG is a state built on federal principles, and the SPD heads the government in a number of Laender. Here we have a mass of opportunities for economic cooperation. Furthermore, we have close ties with the F. Ebert Foundation, which is, for example, in a position to train managers and could possibly be useful to you during the further restructuring of the economy.

[IZVESTIYA] Could you give a few more details?

[Vogel] Here is what we are talking about: During the process of the planned economic transformations, enterprises will start making independent decisions. It could be that we might be able to pass on our experience and our information to your young managers.

[IZVESTIYA] Recently the Laender where the Christian Democratic Union-Christian Social Union is in power have started seeking ways to activate economic ties with the USSR. What form will this process take in Laender where your party is in power?

[Vogel] All you have said is correct. But we should not forget that, for example, Saarland Prime Minister Oskar Lafontaine has been developing ties with the Georgian SSR for a long time now. And North Rhine-Westphalia Prime Minister Johannes Rau has always advocated cooperation between his Land, which remains the heartland of FRG industry, and the Belorussian SSR in particular. I proceed from the premise that this cooperation will be intensified in the future. Especially since enterprises in the future will not have to waste much valuable time running around offices.

[IZVESTIYA] Do you have any specific plans in the economic cooperation sphere?

[Vogel] I am not in a position to name specific firms and addresses now, but I did have a talk with Johannes Rau before my departure for the USSR. He told me that his Ministry of Economics has lists containing 25-30 specific projects concerning the creation of joint enterprises and long-term rather than one-shot deals. I would like to remind you that the "Mannesman" firm, based in North Rhine-Westphalia, concluded some good deals with your country back in the seventies. If you want to know what these lists contain, I will tell Rau to send a copy to IZVESTIYA.

[IZVESTIYA] How do you perceive the SPD's role in the development of USSR-FRG dialogue?

[Vogel] Under Willy Brandt the SPD played the role of trailblazer—I refer to the Ostpolitik and the Moscow treaty, which normalized relations between our countries. I think that none of this would have existed today had it not been for the Social Democrats. We intend to retain this role as trailblazers also in the future. One of the instruments to achieve this is the working group on military budget reductions, composed of CPSU and SPD representatives, as well as meetings like this. If your restructuring progresses the way your general secretary told us, there will be an immeasurable growth of chances to improve cooperation.

[IZVESTIYA] What does the working group which you mentioned actually do?

[Vogel] It recently concluded its work: It studied the interlinkage between the reduction of arms expenditures and aid to developing countries and prepared an appropriate document. Now we have set up a new working group which will tackle European problems: the possibility of improved cooperation between the EEC and CEMA.

[IZVESTIYA] Certain FRG publications predict that your party will remain in opposition until at least the end of this century. What does the SPD leadership think of this?

[Vogel] What can I say? These are the same people who claimed 1 year ago that the SPD was doomed to be forever in opposition in Schleswig-Holstein. Yet we gained victory with wonderful results. We have consolidated our positions and have overcome the difficulties experienced by the SPD in the early eighties. We now have a general prospect for again assuming the burden of making government decisions, because we intend to determine FRG policy. We do not wish to rest content with the role of bystanders in current events. Many will be surprised when they see this happening earlier than some people think.

Vogel Cited on Talks

LD1805170088 Moscow TASS in English 1408 GMT 18 May 88

[Text] Bonn May 18 TASS—The Soviet Union is prepared for talks and specific steps to cut conventional arms and for parallel negotiations on reducing short-range missiles. This is the impression received in Moscow by the chairman of the Social Democratic Party of Germany, Hans-Jochen Vogel.

Vogel observed in an interview with the PARLAMENTARISCH-POLITISCHER PRESEDIENST press bulletin that proposals for creating a nuclear-free corridor in central Europe and a zone free from chemical weapons were positively assessed in the talks with the Soviet leadership.

The USSR was ready for talks on these subjects, Vogel said. One could only wish that the West German Government gave due attention to this.

Komplektov Receives FRG Foreign Ministry Aide

PM1805132188 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 May 88 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report under general heading "Official Reports"]

[Text] USSR Deputy Foreign Minister V.G. Komplektov received H.-W. Lautenschlager, secretary of state at the FRG Ministry of Foreign Affairs, who is in Moscow in connection with the holding of the 16th session of the USSR-FRG Commission for Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation.

Austria's Mock Meets With Georgian Minister

LD1805211788 Moscow TASS in English 2016 GMT 18 May 88

[Text] Vienna May 18 TASS—Matters aimed at developing mutually beneficial contacts between the Soviet Union and Austria were at the centre of attention during a conversation between Alois Mock, Austrian vice-chancellor, minister of foreign affairs, and Otar Cherkeziya, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Georgian Soviet Socialist Republic, who arrived here today to attend festivities on the occasion of the opening of the traditional USSR Days in Austria.

During the conversation the two sides exchanged views on prospects for expansion of bilateral cooperation in various fields. Alois Mock gave a high appraisal of partnership contacts between Tbilisi and Innsbruck, Georgia and Tyrol, and emphasized the important contribtion these contacts make to the cause of strengthening mutual understanding between the peoples of Austria and the USSR.

Armed Forces Official Arrives in Turkey

LD1805204588 Moscow TASS in English 1821 GMT 18 May 88

[Text] Ankara May 18 TASS—Colonel General Vladimir Lobov, first deputy chief of the General Staff of the Soviet Armed Forces, arrived here today for an official visit.

He was welcomed at the airport by Army General Kaya Yazgan, first deputy chief of the General Staff of the Turkish Armed Forces, and other officials.

Briefs

RSFSR Group Visits Turkey

Istanbul May 18 TASS—The delegation of senior executives of the Soviet Council of People's Deputies of the Russian Federation led by Aleksandr Sokolov, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Gorky Regional Soviet of People's Deputies, deputy of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation, paid an official visit to Turkey on May 11-18. The delegation was invited by the Turkish Government. The Soviet delegation was received by Mustafa Kalemi, Turkish minister of the interior, and Kurtcebe Alptemocin, minister of finance and customs. The guests paid visits to the governors of Ankara, Izmir and Istanbul Provinces and were also received by the mayors of those provinces' administrative centers. They exchanged information on issues of domestic [words indistinct] and discussed in a constructive spirit prospects for establishing direct links between regions of the Russian Federation and Turkish Provinces. A desire was expressed from both sides to advance Soviet-Turkish bilateral cooperation in a variety of areas, among them at the level of local government bodies. The Soviet guests visited several [words indistinct] building materials industry, plants to produce and process farm output, had meetings with representatives of the Turkish business community. The delegation left for the homeland today. [Text] [*LD1905022888 Moscow TASS in English 1438 GMT 18 May 88*]

Latin America & Caribbean

Guatemala Condemns TASS Office Bombing

LD1905132988 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0740 GMT 19 May 88

[By TASS correspondent Aleksandr Trushin]

[Text] Guatemala City, 19 May (TASS)—The Government of Guatemala has condemned the terrorist act against the TASS office in this country, carried out by ultraright reaction on 18 May. Two bombs set by unknown persons exploded, causing considerable damage to the premises, and a car belonging to the office was destroyed.

As journalists were told here on Wednesday by Julio Santos, a spokesman for the president of the Republic, the crime "was perpetrated by the enemies of democracy, who are striving to destabilize the democratic system in the country."

Politicians, deputies of the Guatemalan National Congress, and local and foreign journalists have condemned the provocative sally by reactionary forces. This act by extreme right-wing elements undermines Guatemala's international prestige, Deputy Alejos Cambara said.

The explosion of the bombs at the TASS office in Guatemala is a criminal terrorist act, Deputy Jaime Arcila stressed. It must be borne in mind that it was carried out against the offices of the official Soviet news agency, which was operating legally in Guatemala City.

Panama News Conference on 'Reactionaries Plot'
LD1905083788 Moscow TASS in English 0638 GMT 19 May 88

[Text] Panama City 18 May (TASS)—TASS correspondent Eldar Abdulayev reports:

A press conference was held at the investigation board of Panama here. Some details of the plot against the Republic, the plot which was uncovered recently, became known during the press conference. In particular, journalists were shown various types of U.S.- and Israeli-made arms, up-to-date communications means, and large sums of U.S. dollars discovered at secret addresses and clandestine caches in the Panamanian capital.

Spokesmen for the security services, and Eduardo Sandez, one of the plotters, stated at the press conference that under the plotter's plan, several subversive groups were to be brought into Panama from the territory of neighbouring Costa Rica. Those groups were to enter the capital secretly. When in the city the plotters with the aid of former participants in the failed coup attempt in March this year led by Colonel Marcias intended to seize power by force of arms. They were preparing to stage a number of terrorist acts with a view to physically removing the leaders of civilian and military leadership of the country, of democratic parties and trade unions to decapitate the patriotic resistance movement and local government bodies and to sow panic among population.

As a result of the planned actions, the plotters were supposed to create the necessary conditions for a direct U.S. interference in Panama of the plea of protecting the Panama Canal and U.S. national interests.

It was emphasized at the press conference that the reactionaries' conspiracy was foiled in time due to resolute and prompt actions of Panamanian special services.

'Solidarity Ship' To Deliver Nicaraguan Aid
PM1905113088 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 May 88 Second Edition p 4

[A. Chkheidze report: "Ship of Solidarity and Friendship"]

[Text] At a news conference on 17 May, the Soviet Committee for Solidarity with Peoples of Latin America together with the Soviet Peace Fund and the Soviet Red Cross announced the start of a campaign to collect funds to help the Nicaraguan people. This action is among the measures planned in connection with the sending of a "solidarity ship" to Nicaragua's shores, carrying freight from various public organizations in socialist countries. The decision to send this ship was adopted at the latest consultative council session of the socialist countries' committees of solidarity with Latin American countries.

As the speakers noted, material aid from Soviet public organizations to the Nicaraguan people has been coming in since the first days of the revolution. But this will be the first time there has been such a large-scale action, carried out jointly with the socialist countries.

Essential goods, transport facilities, tractors, excavators, food, medical supplies, writing materials, children's toys—that is by no means a complete list of the freight that the Soviet ship will deliver to Nicaragua. It will all be acquired from voluntary gifts from the public, which began to arrive at the Soviet Peace Fund even before the start of the campaign. The "solidarity ship" will set off for Nicaragua in October of this year to deliver gifts from friends in time for Christmas celebrations.

More on Kamentsev at Cuban Cooperation Talks
FL1705033988 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 0208 GMT 17 May 88

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Council of State and Ministers, and Vladimir Kamentsev, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, presided over the opening of the 18th session of the Intergovernmental Soviet-Cuban Commission.

Trade, maritime transportation, results of economic and scientific-technical cooperation, and cooperation in the nuclear and electronic fields will be topics of discussion at the meeting.

Cuban Vice President Carlos Rafael Rodriguez expressed his pleasure in the gathering of the 18th session of the Intergovernmental Commission and in the fraternal spirit which prevails at the (?meeting).

Kamentsev, the Soviet deputy chairman, gave thanks for the warm welcome and for the hospitality rendered to his country's delegation during its visit.

Vlasov-Led Delegation Arrives in Cuba

LD1805175188 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1608 GMT 18 May 88

[Text] Havana, 18 May (TASS)—A delegation of the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs headed by Colonel General Aleksandr Vlasov, USSR Minister of Internal Affairs, has arrived here for a visit. The delegation was met at "Jose Marti" International Airport in Havana by Division General Jose Abrantes, interior minister of the Republic of Cuba, and by other officials.

According to a GRANMA report, the first working meeting took place the same day between the members of the Soviet delegation and their Cuban counterparts, which passed in an atmosphere of friendship and cooperation, characteristic of the relations between the USSR and Cuba.

Political & Social

More on Explosion at Pavlograd Chemical Plant

'Quarry Powder' Exploded

LD1805182188 Moscow TASS in English 1638 GMT 18 May 88

[Text] Moscow May 18 TASS—In connection with Western news agencies reports about an explosion in Pavlograd, the Ukraine, the Information Directorate of the USSR Foreign Ministry has told TASS:

An explosion occurred in an intermediate storage for industrial explosives of the production amalgamation "Pavlogradsky Khimichesky Zavod" (Pavlograd Chemical Plant) at 7:15 Moscow time on May 12 during loading and unloading operations.

12 tonnes of quarry powder exploded.

Three people were killed and five were hospitalised.

The plant produces industrial explosives.

The fact of the accident and the absence of health and environment hazards was announced over Pavlograd city radio at 16:15 on May 12 by I.N. Prikhodko, chairman of the Pavlograd city executive committee, and over Dnepropetrovsk region radio on May 13 by V.P. Golovchenko, head of the health department of the region Soviet of People's Deputies.

A commission is studying causes of the explosion.

Gerasimov Denies Rocket Fuel

LD1805192488 Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 1900 GMT 18 May 88

[Text] The Soviet Foreign Ministry Spokesman Gennadiy Gerasimov has refuted allegations by some Western news agencies which reported that an accident took place at a plant manufacturing rocket propellant on 12th May in the Ukrainian city of Pavlograd. He told Radio Moscow that an explosion did take place there but a chemical plant where the explosion took place has nothing to do with rocket propellant since it manufactures industrial explosives. Twelve tonnes of ammonite exploded at the plant on 12th May. Three people were killed and five hospitalized. On the same day, the local radio reported the accident, so, Gennadiy Gerasimov pointed out, the information by the Pentagon used by news agencies was, mildly speaking, not exact.

Correction to Fuel Plant Explosion Report

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Pavlograd Chemical Plant Explosion Kills Three" published in the 18 May Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, page 44:

Column one, paragraph two, line three reads ...explosives of the "Pavlograd Chemical Works" Production Association [Pavlogradskiy Khimicheskiy Zavod]. Twelve... (correcting name of chemical works, vernacular)

Comparison of Explosion Report

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 19 May carries in its Second Edition on page 6 an unattributed report on the "chemical plant" explosion in Pavlograd. This report has been compared with the Moscow TASS International Service report under the headline "Pavlograd Chemical Plant Explosion Kills Three" published in the 18 May Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, page 44, revealing the following variations:

Column one, paragraph two, line two, the PRAVDA version reads: "...unloading operations at the transfer storage facility [promezhutochnyy sklad] for industrial explosives of..."

Same paragraph, line seven, the PRAVDA version reads: "...produces industrial explosives: rock ammonite, alumetol [allyumotol]..."

More Demonstrations in Armenia, Azerbaijan

'Several Thousand' in Yerevan

AU1905083188 Paris AFP in English 0828 GMT 19 May 88

[Text] Moscow, May 19 (AFP)—Several thousand Armenians again demonstrated Teusday in Yerevan to demand a solution to the problem of the Armenian-dominated enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh in neighbouring Azerbaijan, official sources in the capital of the Soviet Armenian republic said Thursday. The sources, contacted by telephone from Moscow, said the demonstrators had submitted a list of 40 questions on Nagorno-Karabakh to the authorities. Local television had broadcast film of the demonstration, which had not been authorised, and newspapers would publish the demands, they added.

The information was given to AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE on one of three telephone numbers made available to the public by the authorities.

Agitation over Nagorno-Karabakh, which was put under Azerbaijan administration by the late dictator Josef Stalin, and which Armenians want transferred to Soviet Armenia, shook the region between February and April. It resumed last week after the appointment of an Azerbaijani deputy public prosecutor in the enclave and the reported beating to death of a young Armenian on May 11 in the town of Shusha.

Some 40,000 people demonstrated in Yerevan on May 12. Travellers returning from Baku, the Azerbaijani capital, also said 5,000 students demonstrated there

Monday and Tuesday to demand clemency in the trial of 80 people accused of involvement in anti-Armenian riots in nearby Sumgait in February.

'Crowded Meetings' in Baku

LD1905115888 Baku Domestic Service in Azeri 0104 GMT 19 May 88

[Text] On 16 and 18 May crowded meetings of youth, intellectuals, and representatives of work collective were held in Baku. Participants of the meetings stated that they appreciated the efforts of the party and soviet bodies for returning the situation in Nagorno-Karabakh and around it to normal and strengthening the unity and cohesion of the multinational Soviet state. In the meantime, they urged that the Leninist nationality policy of the CPSU should be seriously adhered to. They also urged protection of the interests of the Azerbaijanis living in Armenia SSR. They criticized some statements of the central press and some television broadcasts.

As it was noted in the appeal of the Azerbaijan Central Committee the Azerbaijan SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the Azerbaijan SSR Council of Ministers, incidents that took place on 11 May this year in some residential areas of Ararat Rayon of the Armenia SSR, have caused the present anxiety of a certain section of the population. Disputes arose among the local population of these residential areas. Scientific, cultural, literary, and fine arts workers spoke before the participants of the meeting. Senior party and soviet officials of the republic met with them.

Representatives of the participants of the meeting were received at the Azerbaijan Central Committee and the Azerbaijan SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. The questions they raised were listened to carefully and detailed explanations were given to many of these questions. During the talks it was pointed out that in the conditions of disturbances that have taken place, everybody was requested to exercise maximum restraint, (?reason), and responsibility and to seriously comply with order and socialist legality. Attention was drawn to the fact that harming the long-standing friendship and fraternity of peoples and committing acts that may disrupt social order cannot be allowed.

A number of complex questions that have been raised require attention, profound study, and calm and normal conditions for their solution. Azerinform has been instructed to report that relevant measures will be taken for questions causing people anxiety. Information will be given to the public about the decisions adopted periodically.

OGONEK Editor Interviewed on Karabakh

LD1805134588 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 0650 GMT 18 May 88

[Excerpts] [Announcer] On Monday news agencies throughout the world reported that the first sentences in the trial of those involved in the disturbances in Azerbaidyan had been announced in the Soviet Union. Zoltan Tamasi [not further identified] has interviewed an associate employee of OGONEK, who visited Budapest recently:

[Begin recording] [Tamasi] I am talking with Vladimir Chernov, member of the Editorial Committee of OGONEK, who has visited Stepanakert, capital of Karabakh, several times since the first large-scale actions. What are your experiences of Stepanakert? [passage omitted] You returned from your latest visit to Stepanakert in early May. What is the situation in Karabakh now?

[Chernov in Russian fading into Hungarian translation] The situation is quite calm; everybody has resumed work. The solution of the problem is now taking place in the following way: Together with the gradual fulfillment of the economic demands, the television transmitter for Armenian television broadcasts had already been installed when I was there, and the changes within the leadership are also significant. The first secretary in Karabakh, Tikhorkov, was replaced and there is now a party leadership managing the region which handles the nationality question as a real problem.

However, no change regarding territorial ownership has taken place; Karabakh continues to belong to Azerbaijan, that is, its union with Armenia for which the people demonstrated has not taken place and the people in Karabakh are dissatisfied with this.

It is still difficult to say what the final decision will be in this affair but, in any case, it would not be a precedent. There have been other examples of handing over territory in Soviet history; between Lithuania and Belorussia, between Khazakhstan and Uzbekistan, or when the Russian Federation handed over the Crimean Peninsula to the Ukraine. Either the territory's autonomy will be increased or it will be allowed to unite with Armenia. In my view, either of these two solutions are possible.

[Tamasi] You are of Russian nationality and therefore impartial in this case. What is your personal opinion? Which version is more likely?

[Chernov] In my view the most rational decision would be to hand the territory over to Armenia. This would be logical from the historical, geographical, and economic points of view, and of course primarily from a cultural point of view. At the same time the leaders of Azerbaijan do not want to just simply hand over Karabakh. As yet it is impossible to know which way the affair will end. [passage omitted]

[Tamasi] Two social committees, the Krunk and the Karabakh Committee, ceased because the Supreme Councils of Azerbaijan and Armenia disbanded them.

How did they justify the claim that there was no longer a need for the two social bodies which, ultimately, had played a mediating role between the official leadership and the masses?

[Chernov] I have spoken to the first secretary who was well acquainted with those elected into the committees, and in his view it was a mistake to disband the organizations on the grounds that they no longer carried out a useful activity. For even after the disbandment there were still work stoppages; strikes were held in some places even as late as April. The secretary was obliged to obey the higher decision to disband the committees, but he did so reluctantly. That was no surprise because during the most difficult times these committees kept in touch with the masses when the appointed leaders did not dare to stand in front of the people. By the way, it was possible to find in both committees, in Krunk which operated in Karabakh, and in the Yerevan Karabakh Committee too, very many party members and persons in responsible positions.

[Tamasi] Now that these popular front type organizations have ceased to operate, what are the guarantees that the various actions—strikes for example—do not resume?

[Chernov] It does not depend on the committees, but there have been changes and, what's more, they are rather spectacular. People are now waiting to see the extent of these changes. If they turn out to be only measures for show with no real solution, then it is conceivable that everything will happen again. [end recording]

Correction to Azerbaijan Presidium Appeal

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Azerbaijan Presidium Appeal on Nagorno-Karabakh" published in the 18 May Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, page 45:

Column two, paragraph two, line five should read: "There were people harmed, but there were no deaths." (substituting "deaths" for "casualties")

Tatars Demonstrate on Deportation Anniversary

AU1905104388 Paris AFP in English 1030 GMT 19 May 88

[Text] Moscow, May 19 (AFP)—Thousands of Crimean Tatars staged demonstrations in the Soviet Union to mark the anniversary of mass deportations ordered by Josef Stalin in 1944, Tatar spokesmen said Thursday. A spokeswoman said a demonstration by 1,000 Tatars Wednesday in the town of Abinsk in the southern Russian republic was also to protest the death Monday of a newborn child whose mother was stopped at a police checkpoint while trying to enter the Crimea. No arrests were reported in the demonstration.

The checkpoints were set up in recent days around the Crimea, with the official reason given as an epidemic hitting cattle in the region. But the Tatar spokeswoman, Elvira Ablaeva, said that people who looked like Tatars were subject to special checks.

Another spokesman said that some 2,000 Crimean Tatars demonstrated Wednesday in the Safar region of the central Asian Republic of Uzbekistan. Mrs. Ablaeva said that 40 Crimean Tatars were also allowed to stage a half-hour demonstration outside the Bolshoy Theatre in Moscow.

Accused of collaboration with the Nazis during World War II, some 400,000 Crimean Tatars were deported in 1944, mostly to central Asia. The following year their republic was simply dissolved. The Crimean Tatars have staged several protests in recent years here to press for the right to return to their homeland on the banks of the Black Sea.

Lithuanian Freedom League Calls for Rallies

DW181200 Frankfurt/Main FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE in German 18 May p 2

[Article By "E.L.": "Rallies in Lithuania Called"]

[Text] The Hague, 17 May—The Lithuanian Freedom League, which operates underground in the Lithuanian Soviet Republic, has called for rallies on 22 May in the Lithuanian capital of Vilnius and in Kaunas and for memorial church services in all 600 parishes of the country marking the 40th anniversary of the mass deportation of 200,000 citizens to Siberia. That was reported by the Baltic World Council's press office in Strasbourg, referring to information from Lithuania.

On 20 May 1948 some 200,000 Lithuanians from so-called bourgeois families, including women and children, were transported to Siberian labor camps by boxcars and stockcars. It is reported that only 10 percent of those deported survived the forced labor. During the transport thousands of people died.

According to information from the exile organization, the Lithuanian Freedom League, founded in 1978, seeks primarily to reestablish a sovereign Lithuanian state. Moreover, the league seems to have been reactivated, it is said, after not having appeared in public in the last few years. Aside from Lithuanians, the league also calls upon the numerous Poles and Jews who live in the country to participate in the rallies. At the time many members of those groups were also deported. Those organizing the rallies are reported to have announced that during the rallies the Polish anthem is supposed to be sung along with the prohibited Lithuanian anthem. Tens of thousands of Poles live in Vilnius. Thirty well-known Lithuanian civil rights supporters, including Nijole Sadunaite, and nine well-known Lithuanian priests are said to have joined in the Lithuanian Freedom League's call.

CPSU on 'Inertia' in Monument Preservation

PM1805114988 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
14 May 88 Second Edition pp 1,2

[Unattributed report: "In the CPSU Central Committee"]

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee has approved the resolution "On Measures to Further Improve the Activity of the All-Russian Society for the Protection of Historical and Cultural Monuments."

The resolution notes that the RSFSR has a vast historical and cultural heritage. Many monuments have all-union and world significance. A great deal of work is being done in the republic to restore them. The role played by the All-Russian Society for the Protection of Historical and Cultural Monuments, which has more than 17 million members, has grown immeasurably. Some of its local organizations are actively involving different groups of the population in work to propagandize and preserve historical and cultural monuments. However, on the whole the All-Russian Society for the Protection of Historical and Cultural Monuments has proved unprepared for this work in the conditions of the democratization of our entire life and people's growing interest in the history of our motherland.

The inertia of bureaucratic, administrative work forms and methods, the low level of involvement of social figures in this work, isolation from the masses and from young people in particular, the substitution of elected organs by the staff apparatus, and formalism have led to a decline in the society's authority and to inactivity on the part of primary organizations, many of which concern themselves solely with collecting membership fees. In a number of areas eminent scientists, specialists, literary and arts figures, and monument protection enthusiasts have stopped playing an active role in the life of the All-Russian Society. Frequently restricting themselves to concern for historical buildings of a cult nature, they are not efficient enough in revealing and preserving monuments of the revolutionary movement and socialist building. Members of the society fail to set the tone in discussions on the preservation and spiritual importance of historical and cultural monuments and are sometimes led by one-sided opinions and views.

The document emphasizes that the passivity of the society's central council and of the leadership of many local organizations goes a considerable way to explaining the recent appearance of amateur historical and cultural formations and groups. Not finding proper support from this society, they sometimes fall under the influence of ideas that have nothing in common with concern for the protection of historical and cultural monuments. It is often the case that interest and initiative on the part of genuine enthusiasts of the movement to preserve historical and cultural monuments meet with indifference in party, soviet, and economic bodies. This kind of attitude is caused by a lack of understanding of the importance of historical and cultural monuments, as common spiritual property which is an object of both pride and concern.

Similar societies in other union republics have also failed to become real self-governing unions of like-minded people and activists for the protection of monuments. As a rule, they do not coordinate their efforts and work in isolation from social organizations, the Soviet Culture Fund, and creative unions.

The Central Committees of the union republic communist parties, party kraykoms and obkoms, the councils of ministers of the union and autonomous republics, krayispolkoms, and oblispolkoms, the resolution says, are failing to devote proper attention to the activity of republic-level societies and local organizations and do little to focus their efforts on resolving real tasks connected with the preservation and propaganda of our historical and cultural heritage.

The CPSU Central Committee recommended that the Central Council of the All-Russian Society for the Protection of Historical and Cultural Monuments radically restructure its work forms and methods on the basis of the principles of self-management and glasnost, regard for the opinion of the population, comprehensive support for healthy initiative shown by primary organizations and enthusiasts, and development of society members' sociopolitical activeness.

The main task facing the society should be to form in working people a true historical awareness, a sense of Soviet patriotism and socialist internationalism, and a responsible attitude to the multiethnic cultural and historical heritage of the peoples of the RSFSR.

In the propaganda of monuments of the motherland's history, the revolutionary movement, and socialist building it is essential to form an understanding in working people of the importance of preserving our historical and cultural heritage, as national property, and to cultivate a sense of involvement in the country's history, together with a sensitive, genuinely Leninist attitude to our national heritage from an internationalist standpoint, bearing in mind that Soviet patriotism is inconceivable without internationalism and that it protects national interests and values to strengthen the socialist unity of the peoples of the USSR.

In view of the tasks facing the society, it is proposed to make provision for necessary changes and additions in the society statute, namely: transferring some of the central bodies' powers to lower-level organizations; developing democratic, independent principles in the work of primary organizations and local departments and enhancing the role and responsibility of their members; broadly involving prominent representatives of science and culture, progressive workers, young people, and other sections of the population in the society's activity; broadening the society's real rights to monitor

observance of monument protection legislation; conducting joint work with amateur associations in the preservation of our historical and cultural heritage; and giving the utmost support to sensible initiatives and undertakings.

It is recommended that a preliminary discussion of the new statute provisions be conducted in the press, labor collectives, and educational institutions.

Working on the basis of the law "On the Protection and Use of Historical and Cultural Monuments," the society must, in conjunction with the RSFSR Ministry of Culture, develop and implement measures designed to ensure broad participation by Komsomol and trade union organizations, creative unions, and the public in realizing the long-term program to improve all protection and restoration work and make effective use of monuments on the basis of local conditions and national features; in conjunction with the Komsomol Central Committee it must ensure the formation of special youth brigades, economically accountable architecture and design workshops, and student detachments to carry out restoration work and organize Komsomol patronage of the most important historical and cultural monuments.

The RSFSR Council of Ministers, USSR Gosplan, USSR State Committee for Labor and Social Problems, USSR Ministry of Finance, Central Council of the All-Russian Society for the Protection of Historical and Cultural Monuments, and other interested organizations are instructed to consider the questions of strengthening the material and technical base and financial condition of the society, establishing production and restoration and design subdivisions, and manufacturing and selling souvenirs, including on a cooperative basis. It is recognized as being expedient to restore the payment of voluntary contributions by collective members.

The USSR State Bank is authorized, on request from local branches of republic-level societies, to open special accounts for donations by the population, enterprises, and social organizations for the restoration and renewal of specific historical and cultural monuments.

The USSR Ministry of Justice and USSR Ministry of Culture are given the task—together with republic-level societies for the protection of monuments—of studying observance of the USSR Law "On the Protection and Use of Historical and Cultural Monuments" in 1988-1989 and introducing the necessary addenda and changes in the established procedure to existing legislation, envisaging the formation of an effective state and social mechanism to carefully preserve monuments of material culture and, when necessary, increasing responsibility for any violation of the law.

It is recommended to increase large-edition publications of popular books, albums, and brochures on the questions of protecting, restoring, and using historical and cultural monuments, devoting special attention to those which reflect important events in the revolutionary movement and socialist building.

The editorial boards of central newspapers and journals, the USSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting, and the USSR State Committee for Cinematography have been instructed to give broader coverage to positive experience and urgent problems in the activity of the society's republic and local organizations in the protection, restoration, and propagandizing of monuments.

The union and autonomous republic councils of ministers, krayispolkoms, and oblispolkoms must do their utmost to promote the activity of societies for the protection of historical and cultural monuments, strengthen the material base of existing restoration enterprises and create new ones, and ensure broad glasnost when discussing projects for the restoration of historical city centers and individual architectural ensembles. Questions of preserving and making practical use of historical and cultural monuments must be decided with the participation of republic societies and their branches.

The Central Committees of the union republic Communist Parties and party kraykoms and obkoms are instructed to analyze the state of affairs in societies for the protection of historical and cultural monuments and take real measures to restructure their activity, increase the responsibility of Communists working in the society's organizations, and expand scientific research concerning our historical and cultural heritage.

Ligachev, Yakovlev Attend Monuments Conference

PM1905083588 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
17 May 88 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "To Study and Preserve. All-Union Conference on Problems of Preserving, Restoring, and Using Historical and Cultural Monuments"]

[Text] Historical and cultural monuments are the people's spiritual asset, wealth, and pride. However, public concern at the fate of many works by architects of the past, literary and nature reserves, and memorials is being voiced increasingly frequently today. And this is natural: At turning points in the development of society, heightened interest is shown in its historical heritage. Increasing pain is also felt at the mistakes which have led to irreplaceable losses of national assets.

The creation of an effective state and public mechanism for preserving monuments, problems of restoring and using our cultural and historical wealth—these and other issues are being discussed by the participants in an all-union conference which opened in the RSFSR House of Soviets in Moscow 16 May.

Participating in the conference are Comrades Ye.K. Ligachev, A.N. Yakovlev, and N.V. Talyzin; Yu.P. Batalin, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR Gosstroy; Yu.P. Voronov and A.G. Melnikov, chiefs of CPSU Central Committee departments; leaders of a number of ministries and departments, and cultural and scientific figures.

The conference was opened by N.V. Talyzin, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers. Attaching great significance to the problem of preserving, restoring, and using historical, cultural, and architectural monuments, he said, the CPSU Central Committee has entrusted the USSR Council of Ministers Bureau for Social Development, the USSR Gosstroy, the USSR Ministry of Culture, the State Committee for Architecture, and the USSR Architects Union with holding an all-union conference on these issues.

A number of party and state documents have been adopted in this sphere recently. They include the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers resolution "On the Further Development of Soviet Architecture and Urban Development" and the USSR Council of Ministers resolution "On the Comprehensive Reconstruction and Development of the Historical Center of Moscow City in the Period Through the Year 2000," as well as decisions on the restoration of individual cultural and architectural objects.

A long, detailed resolution is currently being prepared on the comprehensive restoration of the unique cultural centers of the northwest—Novgorod, Pskov, and the Northern Ring—and the radical acceleration of restoration and all other work in those regions. In the process of formulating proposals people have once again seen for themselves that the situation in this sphere is not simple. The volumes of restoration work and the capacities of the restoration organizations which carry out this work are plainly inadequate. The situation must be changed. I believe that the strong construction organizations which exist there should be involved as widely as possible in this noble cause and, above all, in large-scale construction work. The existing situation cannot continue like this.

On the whole, the system of the protection, restoration, and use of monuments has not been finalized. Many valuable structures are not touched by the hands of restorers. In the modern development of old cities their historical and cultural identity is frequently lost. There is no order in the use of monuments. Attention is drawn to these and other shortcomings in many articles and in working people's letters, including letters from scientists, architects, restorers, and cultural figures.

Public organizations do not always fulfill the duties entrusted to them either. The party Central Committee recently examined the question of the work of the All-Russian Society for the Protection of Historical and Cultural Monuments. Serious criticism was leveled at the society's Central Council, and it was ordered to carry out a radical restructuring of its forms and methods of work on the basis of the principles of self-management, glasnost, regard for the population's opinion, and all possible support for useful initiatives.

The state allocates large funds to restoration. Definite positive experience exists in the reconstruction and restoration of historical and cultural monuments in Leningrad, Kiev, Tbilisi, Tallinn, Suzdal, and a whole series of other cities and regions. Extensive use must be made of this experience.

USSR Culture Minister V.G. Zakharov delivered the report. He pointed out that the subject and aims of the conference, which is being held in the period of preparations for the 19th all-union party conference, lie in the mainstream of the nationwide debate on the guidelines of restructuring. It is now more important than ever to preserve and assimilate the spiritual heritage both as lessons in the people's patriotic thinking and as lessons in the past for a new buildup and extension of the cultural stratum.

The strategy of ideological support for restructuring elaborated by the party is of program significance for the cause of preserving and using cultural monuments. An important document which orients us directly toward realizing urgent tasks in this sphere has just appeared—the CPSU Central Committee resolution "On Measures To Further Improve the Activity of the All-Russian Society for the Protection of Historical and Cultural Monuments." Through the joint efforts of party, state, and trade union organs and with broad public participation the work on fostering in working people a correct historical awareness, a sense of Soviet patriotism and socialist internationalism, and a desire to enrich themselves in Leninist style with knowledge of the culture created by mankind's entire development is to be significantly improved.

To resolve these problems there exists a state sector which has already virtually taken shape and is connected with the protection, restoration, and use of monuments of history, archeology, urban development, architecture, and various arts. We are also armed with long-standing traditions of preserving cultural assets.

In a few days time it will be the 70th anniversary of the formation of the People's Commissariat for Education's Department of Museums and Protection of Monuments of Art and Antiquity. The measures adopted by the Soviet power to safeguard and protect the people's cultural assets were graphic evidence of the new system's humaneness and genuine democratism. V.I. Lenin's letters, articles, and instructions demanding that local organs take strict stock of the historical and artistic assets remaining from the old time are well known. During the first decade 224 architectural monuments were restored in the country.

Yet the destruction of monuments was not a rarity. Local leaders and economic planners frequently sanctioned the destruction of historical and cultural monuments absolutely groundlessly.

The authoritarian-bureaucratic distortions of the Soviet system which had become established at that time and extreme subjectivism in assessments of cultural phenomena had a tragic impact on the fate of many monuments of antiquity—both during the thirties and in later years.

However, not even these sad facts can hide the undoubted truth that from the first years after October the party and the Soviet power constantly pursued a policy of protecting the cultural and historical heritage of the country's peoples.

Much has been done to restore historical-revolutionary monuments, memorable places connected with the life and activity of V.I. Lenin, and Great Patriotic War memorials. Among the postwar achievements the speaker named the unique work on restoring the complexes of the Moscow Kremlin and the museum estates of Ostankino, Kuskovo, and Kolomenskoye, the reconstruction of the palace and park complexes in the suburbs of Leningrad, and the work on preserving and reconstructing the historical centers of Suzdal, Samarkand, Bukhara, Tbilisi, Vilnius, and Tallinn. The creation of public formations such as the republic voluntary societies for the protection of historical and cultural monuments and the scientific method councils under union republic ministries of culture was of great significance.

For 12 years now the basic principles of state management and control in this sphere of cultural building and the participation of state and public organizations and citizens in the business of preserving monuments have been defined by the USSR Law "On the Protection and Use of Historical and Cultural Monuments." Analogous laws have also been adopted in the union republics. Much has been done during this time, but there still remain serious shortcomings and unresolved problems in the business of protecting, restoring, and using historical and cultural monuments.

The keynote speaker recalled that more than 200,000 monuments have now been placed under state protection and that their recording is still far from complete. Today, however, it is no longer the time to live under the spell of such round figures. International experience suggests to us the way to enhance efficiency and quality in taking stock via the use of modern methods and means of information. Work on creating an automated monument database has only just begun in our country. It is also important to accelerate the preparation of the multivolume code of historical and cultural monuments of the USSR peoples.

The task of protecting monuments is directly linked with the problem of taking stock. The state must take specific measures to fulfill the legislation on protecting monuments, to draw up targeted restoration programs, and to prevent the unjustified demolition of historic buildings and the incursion of cities into historic environments.

Legislation provides for criminal, administrative, disciplinary, and material liability for damaging a monument and violating the regulations governing its protection and use. In the majority of cases, however, the legal mechanism for instituting proceedings against people for damage to monuments does not function. One of the reasons for this is the passiveness and inactivity of law-enforcement organs. Despite appeals to the Prosecutor's Office from monument protection organs, proceedings are not usually instituted.

The speaker also dwelt on problems which have accumulated in ancient cities and analyzed the urbanization process, which has assumed unprecedented scope since the beginning of the sixties. We have gotten really close to the critical point beyond which each successive partial distortion leads to the irreversible loss of entire complexes of the historical town-planning heritage, V.G. Zakharov said.

The speaker stated that the level of development of the scientific research base both in protection and use and in the restoration of monuments does not correspond to the scale of the present tasks. The long-standing lack of "feedback" between sectoral science and restoration production has had a most pernicious effect on their condition and led to stagnation in this sphere.

The minister of culture named the main areas for the further development of the scientific research base. They include the elaboration of an entire package of legislation on legal and procedural issues, the completion of the creation of a methodological base for identifying, taking stock of, recording, and comprehensively evaluating the entire sum of historical and cultural assets, the drawing up of scientifically substantiated plans and systems for their comprehensive protection and use, and the formulation of unified methodological principles of restoration and conservation.

Respect for monuments must be fostered in every Soviet person from childhood, in the family, in secondary and higher schools, and in labor collectives. In this connection still greater significance attaches to the activity of all establishments in the education and training system, science, literature and art, the mass media, and party, trade union, and Komsomol organizations.

The tremendous sociopolitical significance of our historical and cultural heritage, which plays a great role in the communist education of the rising generations and in the life of society as a whole, demands the radical restructuring of the business of taking stock of, protecting, restoring, and using historical and cultural monuments.

After the report the debate began.

Shcherbitskiy Addresses Voters 13 May

PM1805115588 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 May 88 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Following the Course of Restructuring and Acceleration"]

[Text] The party's plans for accelerating the country's socioeconomic development, and revolutionary ideas for renewing society, overcoming natural difficulties and sometimes even artificial barriers are prospering and gathering momentum. This is exemplified by Dneprodzerzhinsk, a major industrial center of the Dnepr region. Supporting restructuring, the metallurgical, chemical, and construction workers and all the city's labor collectives have actively involved themselves in solving its key tasks—implementing the radical economic reform and democratizing all spheres of life. Extensive discussion of prospective delegates to the 19th all-union party conference is currently underway in primary party organizations and labor collectives. Preference is being given to ardent supporters of restructuring and active Communists.

A frank, businesslike discussion about what has already been done in the runup to the conference, about outstanding problems and tasks to be tackled, and about progress in restructuring the activity of party organizations, labor collectives, and local soviets took place at a meeting between voters in Dneprodzerzhinsk's Bagleyskiy Electoral Okrug and their USSR Supreme Soviet deputy, V.V. Shcherbitskiy, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee. The meeting was held at the chemical industry workers' Palace of Culture and Technology on 13 May.

The meeting was opened by Yu.V. Mamuta, first secretary of the Bagleyskiy party raykom.

V.V. Shcherbitskiy then took the floor.

Meetings like this are always necessary, he observed. But they are especially essential today, when the party and the whole country are making active preparations for a most important political event—the 19th all-union party conference.

Since the Central Committee April (1985) plenum and the 27th CPSU Congress profound changes have been taking place in all spheres of Soviet society and crucial tasks of restructuring have been tackled. The main political result of the last 3 years is that our society has firmly embarked on the path of renewal and radical transformations. Working people have become more socially active everywhere and their desire to play a direct part in political life is increasing. The situation in the economy is gradually changing for the better. A good deal has been done to solve social problems: Major resources for housing construction and the development of health care and public education have been found. The solution of the Food Program's tasks is being speeded up.

This entitles us to say that the course of domestic and foreign policy charted at the 27th party congress is correct. We have on the whole made a pretty good start to restructuring sociopolitical life, the spiritual sphere and economic reform, although there are areas, both large and small, of which this cannot yet be said. This is due to the fact that many of us have not yet been able to get out of the old rut, have not changed our approaches and work style, nor learned to think in economic terms, tackle the new, complex tasks in a businesslike way, or demonstrate constant initiative and persistence in achieving set targets. And that is why a number of good, crucially important decisions are still being carried out slowly and incompletely.

It has also now become obvious that restructuring is a complex and lengthy process. The CPSU Central Committee therefore deemed it necessary to convene the 19th all-union conference to investigate thoroughly the progress of restructuring and impart powerful new impetus to it. And second, to determine measures to further democratize the life of the party and society.

At his recent meeting with leaders of the mass media, ideological institutions, and creative unions held at the CPSU Central Committee, M.S. Gorbachev stressed that the upcoming party conference is designed to create the necessary political, ideological, and organizational prerequisites that will guarantee not only the irreversability of the processes of restructuring and democratization but also help develop and deepen those processes in a decisive way.

V.V. Shcherbitskiy then informed the voters about the situation in the republic and the work being carried out to implement the course elaborated by the party. In the Ukraine, as throughout the country, he noted, restructuring has spread far and wide and embraced all spheres of people's lives. Guided by the CPSU Central Committee's guidelines, the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee is bending the party organizations' efforts toward providing ideological backup for restructuring, deepening democracy, implementing the radical economic reform, and solving urgent social tasks.

Here we are seeking to ensure a political approach to the matter and to consistently remove from party committees the practice of supplanting soviet and economic organs and also to eliminate administrative methods of leadership. Priority is being given to creating everywhere real conditions for the involvement of all working people in state and public affairs.

Ensuring that people are better informed is a very important precondition for this. With this end in view the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee has adopted a decision to further intensify glasnost in party work.

The emphasis here has been placed on informing the population about how decisions are being carried out, and, if they are not being carried out, who is to blame and what measures have been taken. This will increase the accountability of leading workers, above all, for the execution of resolutions and plans.

A good deal has already been done to develop democratic principles in cadre work. The practice whereby secretaries of primary party organizations, party gorkoms and raykoms, gorispolkom and rayispolkom chairmen, and economic leaders are elected by secret ballot from among two or more candidates is becoming common. More than 800 enterprise directors, 45,000 shop chiefs, foremen, and team leaders have already been elected at their work place. These include 40 top leaders and around 500 shop chiefs, foremen, and team leaders in enterprises in the city of Dneprodzerzhinsk.

Labor collective councils—this new way of involving working people in production management—have an important role to play in expanding democracy. More than 6,000 of them have been set up in the republic. There are councils operating in more than 60 percent of enterprises and organizations in your city. It is necessary that labor collective councils help by their activity to solve statewide tasks, particularly regarding full satisfaction of the national economy's requirements for goods and fundamental improvement of their quality, and take up questions of social development.

Soviet deputies' political role and responsibility is markedly increasing in the republic, and trade unions, the Komsomol, and other public organizations are now working more energetically. The main thing now is to persistently deepen the processes of democratization and use the people's inexhaustible creative potential to solve urgent tasks, since we have lost much and continue to do so through not having been able to liberate in good time people's full initiative, creativity, and independence.

It is necessary to talk about this because not everyone everywhere has yet realized the vital importance of mastering democratic work methods. Hence the unreceptiveness to initiative, especially from below. This takes different forms. Some people deliberately seek pretexts to snub innovative people, to put them in their place, as it were; others simply brush people aside or fob them off with generalized promises.

For example, Dneprodzherzhinsk's Communists and working people made quite a few interesting, sensible comments and suggestions during meetings where party elected bodies reported back on the leadership of restructuring. But the party gorispolkom and gorkom have treated many of them perfunctorily. This particularly concerns the implementation of radical economic reform. Analysis of the state of affairs in this very important area shows that progress here is still slow and that sometimes there is simply no progress at all being made.

What, then, are the main causes of this? Principally it is that soviet and economic bodies in the city and the republic as a whole are still too timid in adopting the new approaches and economic levers in production leadership. Many party committees are also restructuring themselves too slowly. The seach for new work methods is not being carried out with sufficient energy or determination, and traditional forms of influence are not only proving ineffective but are quite often at odds with the course of increasing the independence and responsibility of labor collectives and their leaders. It should also be said that a radical breakthrough is being hampered both by the complacency generated by partial improvements in a number of areas and plain lack of ability on the part of some workers to see work through.

As a result the metallurgical workers at the F.E. Dzerzhinskiy Combine, the chemical workers of the "Azot" Association, railcar builders, and collectives of certain other of the city's enterprises have accumulated a big backlog. Enterprise leaders, the party gorkom, and gorispolkom must take additional measures, step up monitoring of the results of economic activity, help those who need help, and make proper demands on others. Experience shows that wherever people have set to work with a will, results have not been long in coming.

Analysis shows that the republic is now making fuller use of intensive factors. The bulk of the most important economic indicators have improved since the beginning of the 5-year plan. Production output and—what is very important—labor productivity in industry have increased by respectively 1.4 and 1.5 times compared with 1985. Above-plan profit amounted to more than R2 billion. One-third more capital has been invested compared with the same period in the last 5-year plan. Improvements have also occurred in the agro-industrial complex. There has been increased production and procurement of grain, sunflower seeds, vegetables, including potatoes, and all kinds of livestock products, which has made it possible to improve somewhat the population's food supply.

Thus over the republic as a whole it has proved possible to a certain extent to break through the adverse trends in the national economy's development. Enterprises and organizations that have switched over to full economic accountability and self-financing are exerting an ever increasing influence upon the pace of the economy's development and quality indicators. It is typical that growth in production output and labor productivity for this group of enterprises not only exceeds plan targets in the first quarter but is also higher than for industry as a whole.

However, these incipient positive shifts are not yet exerting a determinative influence everywhere on fundamentally improving the economy. Many party committees have not yet been able to overcome the difficulties of the transitional period. Frequently they put up with sluggishness on the part of economic leaders. Work to eliminate loss-making production and reduce the number of unprofitable enterprises is being carried out slackly.

Reserves to boost the output of consumer goods and ensure fulfillment of commodity circulation and the cash plan are not being revealed or utilized sufficiently energetically. And this creates difficulties in monetary circulation and leads to wages being paid late at some enterprises. Unfortunately, similar shortcomings are also found in other cities in the republic.

Here certain economic leaders and also party committees quite often engage in private tasks and request various kinds of indulgences and extra resources to be allocated while failing to meet the targets for resource savings.

We are particularly worried, V.V. Shcherbitskiy said, by the state of affairs regarding the fulfillment of contracted deliveries. Although the level here has increased to 99.2 percent, consumers have nevertheless experienced a shortfall of goods worth R338 million in the first 4 months of this year alone. It is clear to everyone that failure to deliver supplies promptly has a grave impact on the whole production chain and under the reform conditions is financially detrimental not only to the actual culprit but subcontractors too.

Alas, the imbalance between production output and material-technical backup and such a chronic complaint as stop-go production quite often affect the state of affairs. But out of the whole gamut of shortcomings special attention must be paid to the fact that we have still not made fully operative the human factor, the potential of the masses' creative initiative, without which the implementation of the economic reform is simply inconceivable.

As the results of the first 4 months of this year show, we are capable of solving the crucial tasks of the 5-year plan in both quantitative and qualitative terms. March, for example, saw the highest daily output of goods, worth R474 million. Plans for capital investment, construction and installation work, commissioning of fixed capital, housing, and social, cultural, and consumer facilities were overfulfilled in the first quarter.

As for agriculture, livestock productivity has shown marked growth, and meat, milk, and egg procurement targets are being met. In the fields the situation regarding winter crops, spring cereals, fruit, and vegetables is better in most oblasts than last year.

The new management conditions and the increased power and responsibility of local organs, V.V. Shcherbitskiy noted, are helping speed up the solution of social tasks. The amount of state capital investment in the republic for these purposes is more than one-fourth up on the target at the beginning of the 5-year plan. Housing construction is expanding.

The Ukrainian Central Committee has approved the comprehensive "Housing-2000" targeted program. All regions, ministries, and departments and most enterprises and organizations have drawn up similar programs. Some 10 million square meters of housing in excess of target will be commissioned in the first 3 years of the 5-year plan. This will bring new homes to almost 250,000 families (that is to say, roughly 1 million people) more quickly.

The Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee first secretary then analyzed the implementation of Dneprodzerzhinsk City's comprehensive development plan. The city has constructed 4,367 apartments, two large general education schools, and four children's complexes and opened the new Mir movie house on Levoberezhye, a number of stores, and other important facilities since the start of the 5-year plan. A bridge is being built across the Dnepr. However, in tackling a number of vitally important issues the party gorkom and gorispolkom lack consistency, determination, and specificity, particularly in solving such acute issues as housing provision, improving supplies, the environment, working conditions, and city dwellers' recreation.

The speaker then briefly described the contemporary international situation. He observed that, despite all the difficulties, the process of restructuring is also under way now in international affairs. The Ukraine's working people, like all Soviet people, actively support the new approaches and fundamental decisions adopted by the CPSU Central Committee and the government to solve pressing international problems. The signing of the Soviet-U.S. treaty on intermediate- and shorter-range missiles and the Geneva agreements on Afghanistan have been greeted with great satisfaction.

V.V. Shcherbitskiy concluded by stressing that both domestic and foreign policy factors demand further deepening of the restructuring of our work in all sectors and substantial speeding up of the country's socioeconomic development. The attention and efforts of party, soviet, and economic organs, every Communist, and every worker must be concentrated on solving precisely these tasks so that the all-union party conference may be greeted in fitting fashion.

Representatives of the Bagleyskiy Electoral Okrug noted at the meeting that the changes taking place on the initiative and under the leadership of the party have deeply affected all sectors of the economy and the social,

spiritual, and moral sphere of life of the city and rayon, given scope for new undertakings and useful initiatives, and helped develop the human factor.

At the same time the speakers pointed out errors in management and planning and omissions in capital construction and the solution of social tasks and proposed specific ways and measures to remove the aforementioned shortcomings.

"For any party organization, as for any Communist," Gorsovet Deputy N.I. Vereshchak, worker at the Dneprodzerzhinsk Coal-Tar Chemical Industry Plant, said, "the period of preparation for the party conference is a time for serious reflection. All of us must examine in greater depth what has actually been achieved in every sphere since the 5-year plan began and where serious work still has to be done. Since this January our plant has been working under conditions of self-financing and has achieved tangible results. However, to be honest, not everyone has taken to economic accountability. There are still indifferent and complacent workers who champion renewal in words but avoid carrying it out in practice. That is to say, we have failed to imbue every worker with a sense of being in charge, a high sense of responsibility for the state of affairs at the enterprise. The process of restructuring demands committed involvement in it by all collective members; changes for the better in the solution of economic problems and on the socioconsumer plane will then appear more quickly.

The following also addressed the meeting: V.K. Pitsyk, shop operative at the Dneprodzerzhinsk "Azot" Production Association; A.I. Priymak, first secretary of the party gorkom; M.A. Androshchuk, leader of a team of finishers at the "Dneprokhimstroy" Trust's No 2 Construction Administration; V.A. Kuzmin, director of the Bagleyskiy Coal-Tar Chemical Plant; V.A. Pleten, doctor at the city emergency hospital; L.Yu. Moroz, teacher at the No 20 Secondary School; and others.

V.A. Ivashko, first secretary of the Dnepropetrovsk party obkom, and I.P. Babich, chairman of the oblispolkom, took part in the meeting.

Ryzhkov Asks Tyumen To 'Repay Debt'

PM1905101188 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 May 88 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report on USSR Council of Ministers Chairman N.I. Ryzhkov visit to Tyumen Oblast, including 14 May speech to oblast party-economic aktiv meeting: "Applying the Creative Energy of Restructuring to the Development of West Siberia"]

[Text] Tyumen, 14 May—How vibrant life is today in West Siberia and how this region, one of great importance to our economy, is to be developed in the future—this was the subject of an in-depth, keen discussion in Tyumen today. N.I. Ryzhkov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, had a meeting here with the oblast party-economic aktiv.

It was opened by G.P. Bogomyakov, first secretary of Tyumen CPSU Obkom. He reported on the oblast party organization's work in carrying out the measures elaborated by the CPSU Central Committee to develop the West Siberian oil and gas complex, on the way the restructuring tasks are being implemented, and on the basic guidelines for future activity.

The meeting was addressed by N.I. Ryzhkov.

Describing the time that has elapsed since the CPSU Central Committee April (1985) Plenum, he stressed that the seed of revolutionary restructuring that had been dropped into the people's soil had grown into an all-embracing movement for the implementation of the extensive renewal program.

However, the speaker noted, restructuring has given rise not only to enthusiasm and hope, but to its own contradictions. It has raised many difficult, unpleasant, and sometimes even painful issues. There is a great deal we have to overcome—an ingrained devotion to old habits, the persistent discrepancy between words and practical actions—and we must discard everything that is weighing restructuring down. The signs from the West Siberian region are that here too there are many working people at various levels looking warily at the process of renewing society. While proclaiming loyalty to restructuring, they shun glasnost and criticize and sometimes persecute people for implementing them. The bulk of the practical work on transforming all aspects of society's life has still to be done.

The speaker paid special attention to certain tasks for the latter half of the 5-year plan.

The most important of them is the implementation of the provisions of the USSR Law on the State Enterprise (Association), he said. What is it that presently worries labor collectives operating under its terms most of all? It is all manner of attempts to encroach on the rights granted to enterprises by means of oppressive administrative and bureaucratic methods. What are the reasons for this situation? In the first place, many leaders have not yet learned to manage production by means of economic levers, in accordance with the principles of business partnership. Therefore, they are irresistibly drawn to obsolete command methods, to the orchestration of all enterprises' operations. But there is another category of leaders who do not believe it possible to operate in accordance with the new principles and do not wish to master them, because they are deeply convinced that it is the chief's role to issue instructions and that they themselves are the only reliable management instrument.

Yes, the bureaucracy is not going to give way without a fight. Anxiety about this has been expressed in many letters, including letters from people in your region. I will remind you that economic accountability is a real force in the struggle against bureaucracy, because it gives real independence and releases labor collectives' initiative. The main thing at the moment for enterprises is to comprehensively develop and deepen intraproduction economic accountability after the example, say, of such associations as "Surgutneftegaz." There they have managed to make labor substantially more productive and to eliminate pay leveling.

The state order occupies a special place in the new mechanism. It must ensure what is the main factor in management restructuring—an optimum combination of centralized principles and enterprises' economic independence.

It must be plainly stated that the correct correlations have not been found in the 1988 plan. State orders have been farmed out to ministries and departments, which have turned them into newly packaged traditional methods of targeted directive planning. The Ministry of Tractor and Agricultural Machine Building and the Ministry of the Medical and Microbiological Industry have been particularly assiduous in this respect.

Having encountering this situation, the government is substantially revising the approaches to the formation of state orders for 1989 and 1990. There will now be a more clear-cut line between control figures and state orders. The former are the state's guidelines, arising out of national economic interests and strategic tasks, for the development of the economy at a specific rate and in specific proportions. But a state order is a demand by society. It is an expression of the paramount need for the manufacture of products of special national economic importance and for the solution of social problems. The speaker dwelt on the need to eliminate cases of loss-making production as impermissible and as a phenomenon that contradicts the nature of full economic accountability.

I also want to dwell, he continued, on a problem directly associated with the implementation of the economic reform. It is a question of territorial self-financing. Essentially, union republics, krays, oblasts, and cities lack a clearly established system for getting together financial resources for the solution of the regional questions of economic and social development within their purview.

The CPSU Central Committee June (1987) Plenum formulated the party's position on this question. Over a period of 2 years the principles will be elaborated and the normative base will be established for territorial self-financing, so that an efficient system of economic relations between territories, sectors, and enterprises can begin operating in the country in the 13th 5-Year Plan. Our task is to ensure that in every region collaboration between the local organs of power and the enterprises located there develops on the basis of mutual interest.

The example of Tyumen Oblast shows how important it is to establish this kind of collaboration. Local soviets are essentially resigned to chronically lagging behind the republic level in terms of providing medical services, hospitals, and housing. The proportion of schoolchildren studying in second and third shifts is 50 percent higher than the all-union level. Given such indicators, one cannot really expect to be able to keep cadres in the oblast.

West Siberia, N.I. Ryzhkov went on, occupies a key position in the country's economic potential: The region contains one-half of the country's oil resources and over one-third of the gas resources. The complex that has been created on the basis of them is the hub of the fuel sectors. The mighty creative forces of our socialist society have been marshaled to develop one of the most promising regions. West Siberia is a major school of higher expertise, a school of management and modern economic and state thinking. This is manifested in the vast scale of the work and in the ability to concentrate resources in the decisive areas of economic activity, which has made it possible to rapidly achieve results in extreme conditions, generated an economic boom in the oblast, and contributed in many ways to the development of the country's national economy. At the same time, the negative lessons of flaws of an economic, ecological, and, indeed, educational nature are instructive.

You will remember, of course, M.S. Gorbachev's pronouncement on this platform to the effect that the rhythm of the West Siberian complex' work determines to a considerable extent the successes of the national economy as a whole. The measures to provide assistance, adopted since his trip to your oblast, and the correct conclusions drawn by the working people themselves have had certain positive results. The oil industry has emerged from a state of thorough decline and is now working steadily. In the first 2 years of the current 5-year plan oil and gas condensate extraction increased by 11 percent and gas extraction by 22 percent.

However, despite the increase in the rate of extraction, the target for the first 2 years of the current 5-year plan was underfulfilled by more than 2 million tonnes of oil. The country is in dire need of your oil, particularly today, in conditions of the accelerated development of the national economy. And it is a matter of honor for the oblast party organization and oil industry workers to pay their debt to the country as quickly as possible.

The increasing production costs of the oil and gas industry in West Siberia, which are approximately 50 percent higher than the average for the country, are a source of serious concern. The impression is that for many years your sole concern has been to obtain as many

material and financial resources and manpower as possible, without bothering particularly about using them effectively. Take, for example, the exploitation of the available production potential. The nonoperating gas well stock in West Siberia increased by 70 percent last year. The number of mothballed wells nearly trebled, reaching a total of 1,500. The shortfall in oil production last year due solely to above-normative well shut-downs exceeded 3 million tonnes. This cannot go on. For all its respect for your difficult job, society cannot afford such an attitude to the people's property. It is time, comrades, to consider state rather than local demands.

In this connection N.I. Ryzhkov also pointed out the need to fundamentally improve the standard of the use of associated petroleum gas, which contains valuable chemical raw materials. It is with great dissatisfaction, he said, that I observe that West Siberia is making the main "contribution" to the wasteful destruction of associated petroleum gas: In the first 2 years of the 12th 5-year Plan over 23 billion cubic meters—four-fifths of national losses—were flared off or released into the air.

It is also necessary to sort out once and for all the system for recording, storing, and using material resources, particularly pipes. It must not be forgotten that extravagance is something that runs counter to increasing national resources and improving the people's living standards.

He then talked about the oblast's development prospects. The future of West Siberia, he said, must not be linked exclusively to the development of fuel and energy resources. This restricts its potential and future prospects. The region has everything it needs for the development of top-priority spheres of the scientific-technical revolution. Processing of hydrocarbons should be one of them. The necessary prerequisites exist: a stable raw material base, major power capacities, a certain construction industry reserve, and free and undeveloped territories. All this makes it possible to embark in the very near future on creating an oil-gas-chemicals complex in West Siberia.

Thus the broadest horizons of dynamic comprehensive development are opening up for the oblast in the foreseeable future. A more modern sector structure will give it a new image. It will be the source of funds running into many billions for the solution of all the vital social needs. People will have extra opportunities to reveal their creative potential and to put their labor to good use, and, most important of all, they will have great confidence in the future.

In April the USSR Council of Ministers examined the Tyumen CPSU Obkom proposals on this question, which are seen as the first stage in the creation of an oil-gas-chemicals industry in West Siberia. It was deemed advisable in the 13th 5-Year Plan to create five complexes in the oblast in the vicinity of the cities of Surgut, Nizhnevartovsk, Tobolsk, and Novyy Urengoy and the settlement of Yarkovo.

When the program for the construction of these enterprises has been completed, Tyumen Oblast will be providing the country with over one-third of the overall output of synthetic rubber, styrene, lubricants, and polypropylene. More than 20 percent of the polystyrene will be produced here, as well as a considerable quantity of mineral fertilizers and plant protection agents, raw material for synthetic fibers, and much else.

The commissioning of the new capacities will accelerate the solution of the very important state task of fully meeting the national economy's requirements for various plastics, including plastics for use in construction. There will be big, new opportunities for the production of consumer goods and scientific-technical progress in machine building, construction, and other sectors will be given a fillip.

The major task of setting up the processing of hydrocarbons on the territory of the oblast is to be implemented on the most modern technological basis. And it is at this stage that all the questions of the development of the social sphere must be taken into account and the strictest nature conservation demands observed.

It is to this end and also in order to make full use of the best worldwide achievements in highly efficient, ecologically clean technology that the possibility of enlisting foreign firms to set up joint enterprises is being considered.

But, of course, the creation of the petrochemical ad chemical complexes must take place in tandem with the development of the extraction industries, which are their raw material base.

On the subject of the region's national economic prospects, I want to talk in particular about the Yamal peninsula. At present the main increases in gas extraction come from the Yamburg field, but at the start of the next 5-year plan they will be achieved as a result of the development of Yamal gas stocks.

As is known, it is a very difficult area in which to work. Any delay in the preparations for development would be particularly intolerable. It is necessary to make the maximum effort and display initiative and persistence in order to carry out the task of getting Yamal gas to the European part of the country at the start of the 13th 5-Year Plan.

Success in implementing major tasks in the development of the West Siberian raw material and processing industry will depend to a decisive extent on the acceleration of scientific-technical progress, the USSR Council of Ministers chairman continued. In extreme conditions we

need highly productive equipment and progressive materials and structures. Only then can we develop the area using as few extra cadres as possible. Important documents on questions of ensuring the solution of the tasks facing the region in accordance with modern technical standards were adopted 2 years ago, but, essentially, they were not carried out.

He pointed to the omissions perpetrated by the Ministry of Chemical and Petroleum Machine Building; the Ministry of Instrument Making, Automation Equipment, and Control Systems; and some other ministries. It is perfectly obvious, the speaker said, that some central management bodies, above all the USSR Council of Ministers Bureau for Machine Building, are not displaying proper responsibility as far as questions of scientific-technical progress in the region are concerned and are not making the necessary demands on sector ministries. It is clear that the situation must be rectified swiftly. This view has been reinforced during our stay here.

The speaker dwelt on the tasks posed by the accelerated increase in production forces in Tyumen Oblast and West Siberia as a whole and the creation of new sectors and production facilities here. Questions of the cardinal improvement of the situation in capital construction have come very much to the fore. One task that has to be tackled in the region is the creation of its own production base, construction sector, and developed construction materials industry.

Power and transport workers have a great deal to do.

There is yet another question at which both the departments and local bodies must be constantly looking. Our society is becoming increasingly aware of the social importance of ecological problems and is fighting with increasing vigor for their solution. Nature conservation means concern for people's health today and for our future.

Recently the party and government adopted decisions giving local organs of power wide-ranging rights in the ecological sphere. Full use must be made of them. The recently created USSR Committee for Nature Conservation must make its mark quickly. It is particularly important to preserve the natural balance in areas of the Far North which are highly susceptible to thoughtless interference. In fact, it takes several decades for the topsoil to be regenerated if it is destroyed.

West Siberia is a unique area in all respects. And the experience that has been accumulated over the 25 years of its development is invaluable in many respects. But much of it has been accumulated by the trial and error method. It can definitely be said that science, including academic science, owes much to those who are developing the North. Scientists of the USSR Academy of Sciences are expected to produce recommendations on many questions, above all on how to create normal conditions for effective labor and life in the Far North. There has been much criticism of sector science too.

The speech emphasized the importance of resolving social problems. The visits to Tyumen, Tobolsk, Surgut, Nizhnevartovsk, and Novyy Urengoy have demonstrated that there is a great amount of work to be done on the social front, because fundamental social problems have been extremely neglected. I feel that more attention is being paid to them now. But, judging by what I have seen, the picture varies from city to city. In some places they have gotten down to serious work, in others they are still thinking about it. In view of the region's national importance and its wide-ranging development prospects, the present situation must be changed.

The USSR Council of Ministers chairman dwelt specifically on the problem of food supplies, noting that the oblast, particularly southern parts, has great potential for substantially increasing agricultural production, above all livestock production.

It was pointed out that local bodies and the RSFSR Council of Ministers must make a determined impact on the situation. Today food supplies are one of the most acute problems of our life. Recently it was discussed once again at a CPSU Central Committee Politburo session. It was proposed that there should be another comprehensive examination of all questions that will make it possible to substantially increase food production and accordingly improve supplies to the consumer.

Another equally important question is that of providing consumer goods. As is known, at the moment the oblast is unable to provide all the consumer goods it needs. But, at the same time, it is necessary to strive to implement the task as far as possible.

Of all your pressing social issues, the speaker went on, the most urgent and most acute is housing. As many as 120,000 families are still living in ill-equipped apartments, huts, or temporary buildings [balki]. As you know, the housing problem has been the one most commonly raised at meetings with the population. Fundamental guidelines have now been elaborated on for overcoming the lag in housing construction. You are very familiar with them. I would only stress the following:

The country is paying special attention to the development of housing construction in your oblast. But for all that, the problem remains acute. At a time when work is being done on the region's development prospects thorough provision must be made for measures to considerably increase housing construction. This will largely be determined by the potential of the construction industry. Favorable conditions should also be created for the construction of housing using funds earned by labor collectives.

Furthermore, a sharp increase in individual and cooperative housing construction is an important reserve for accelerating the solution to the housing problem. Your oblast, like many other areas, has not escaped the reduction in individual housing construction. There is half as much as there was 20 years ago. This in no way accords with the interests and increased potential of the population.

The CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers saw fit to implement a number of major measures to rectify the situation. This is particularly significant for your oblast because it helps to establish a stable cadre situation.

We have all seen, N.I. Ryzhkov said in conclusion, the way the expansion of enterprises' independence and the development of self-management provide scope for initiative, labor contests, and socialist competition. This is clearly manifested in the widespread movement for a fitting greeting to the 19th all-union party conference, which has been actively supported by working people in Tyumen Oblast. The success of restructuring will be determined to a decisive extent by how quickly and how deeply cadres grasp the need for revolutionary changes and how resolutely, vigorously, and competently they operate.

The Tyumen meetings have enabled me to conclude that despite all the difficulties, working people are wholeheartedly behind the big changes that are currently taking place and are actively involved in restructuring. We are leaving with a sense of optimism and firm confidence that the oblast's working people and the oblast party organization will, as ever, be in the vanguard of the imposing accomplishments on which the Communist Party is urging the Soviet people to embark.

In their speeches V.I. Grayfer, chief of the Main Administration for Petroleum and Gas in the Tyumen Region; Ye.N. Yakovlev, chief of the Main Administration for the Tyumen Region Gas Industry; V.P. Sokolov, director of "Tyumenenergo"; Ya.I. Kosolapov, chief of the USSR Ministry for the Construction of Petroleum and Gas Industry Enterprises Main Territorial Production Management Administration; V.V. Yudin, general director of the Tobolsk petrochemical combine; and B.V. Prokopchuk, chairman of the oblast agroindustrial committee, gave a critical analysis of the work to implement the 5-year plan targets and talked about how to improve implementation of the prospects for the oblast's socioeconomic development.

In particular, attention was drawn to the need, in the new management conditions, to ensure an increase in oil and gas extraction without using extra manpower and to the reserves which make it possible to use materials and funds more rationally and productively. There was mention of the problem of creating specialized educational establishments in the oblast to train cadres capable of servicing the most advanced equipment and technology.

The task of adopting a responsible approach to business partnership relations, which is exceedingly important in light of the prospects of setting up in the region joint enterprises with foreign firms, was considered an urgent one. Certain ministries were criticized, particularly those in the machine building complex on which regular supplies of essential high-quality equipment largely depend. It was stressed that the successful implementation of restructuring tasks demands more persistent, purposeful, and consistent participation in the work by party, soviet, and economic bodies and all the working people of the West Siberian oil and gas complex.

N.I. Ryzhkov, who was in Tyumen Oblast from 10 through 14 May, toured the oblast.

In Surgut he visited the condensate stabilization and gas processing plants and the GRES. During meetings and conversations with the leaders of enterprises and party and public organizations, specialists, and workers there was detailed discussion of the state of affairs at fuel and power complex facilities and the prospects for establishing petrochemical production facilities.

In Novyy Urengoy the USSR Council of Ministers chairman visited the country's biggest gas condensate field and the plant treating the gas condensate. There was a discussion about how the 12th 5-Year Plan targets are being fulfilled and about the gas extraction prospects. Mention was made of the need to make more rational, comprehensive use of the extracted hydrocarbons and create processing facilities there.

The visit to Nizhnevartovsk began at the site of the main building of the Nizhnevartovsk GRES. Serious problems holding up the startup of the first power unit were emphasized. The accelerated commissioning of power capacities is needed not only to make the fields' work more reliable, but also to develop the petrochemical industry in the area. The itinerary then took him through the gas-lift compressor station and one of the drilling rigs.

On arriving in Tyumen, N.I. Ryzhkov visited a modular facilities plant of the main administration for modular construction and installation work in Siberia. The plant was the first in the country to start manufacturing modular structures, the use of which has considerably accelerated the development of the oblast's oil and gas fields.

At the "Tura" housing construction plant the USSR Council of Ministers chairman familiarized himself with the production facility that is going to produce complete settlements, including all amenities, for the northerners.

In Tobolsk he visited the giant petrochemical combine on the Irtysh and looked around the central gas fractionation plant, the plant producing butadiene—raw material for the manufacture of rubber—and the site of a future petrochemical complex. It was noted that the

commissioning rate needs to be sharply increased in future phases and the experience of creating this pioneer of the processing sector in Tyumen Oblast taken into account when further developing the petrochemical industry here. N.I. Ryzhkov familiarized himself with the site of West Siberia's major mineral fertilizer and plant protection agent production complex near Yarkovo settlement and visited some agroindustrial complex facilities: the "Borovskaya" poultry farm near Tyumen and a dairying combine in Yalutorovsk.

The trip included meetings with the party-economic aktivs in Novyy Urengoy and Nizhnevartovsk. They discussed ways of tackling topical tasks of economic and social development in those areas. Emphasis was placed on the importance of providing the population with high-quality, modern housing, schools, and kindergartens as quickly as possible. More attention must be paid to creating hothouse complexes, enterprise subsidiary plots, and forestry and horticultural cooperatives. It was said that, in developing the Tyumen North, new industrial sectors must be developed in conjunction with the social infrastructure and skillfully combined with traditional local industries.

A conference at the Tymen CPSU Obkom, attended by the leaders of a number of ministries, departments, and oblast organizations, examined problems of strengthening the raw material base of oil and gas extraction and creating processing facilities. In the enterprises' shops and on the streets of the cities N.I. Ryzhkov talked with working people. They shared their concerns and thoughts on work in the new management conditions and expressed opinions on how better to overcome everything that is currently inhibiting the restructuring process. Problems of housing and cultural-consumer construction and questions of improving people's living conditions were discussed.

The USSR Council of Ministers chairman looked around new housing developments and visited social, cultural, and consumer facilities and trade enterprises. He visited the Tobolsk Kremlin and the Yalutorovsk Decembrists' Museum.

N.I. Ryzhkov was accompanied on the tour of the oblast by Yu.P. Batalin, V.K. Gusev, and B.Ye. Shcherbina, deputy chairmen of the USSR Council of Ministers; G.P. Bogomyakov, first secretary of Tyumen CPSU Obkom; and N.A. Chernukhin, chairman of the oblispolkom.

Baklanov Visits Moscow Plastic Association
PM1805112588 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
17 May 88 Second Edition p 2

[TASS report under the headline "Attention to Polymers"]

[Text] On 16 May Comrade Baklanov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, visited the Moscow Plastik scientific production association of the USSR Ministry of the Chemical Industry, where he acquainted himself with the development and manufacture of various articles of plastic, film, models of equipment for their manufacture, and the progress of the reconstruction of the enterprise. There was a conversation on measures for the more effective use of the association's scientific potential, increasing the production of materials and articles and improving the quality and broadening the range with the aim of satisfying the demands of the national economy for them as fully as possible. The particular importance of the further increase in the production of polymer pipes and their broad introduction into industry and housing construction was noted. The development of these capacities is still being held up by a lack of progressive Soviet equipment. In this connection major tasks have been set before the USSR Ministry of Chemical and Petroleum Machine Building, which is responsible for developing it. In addition, it is deemed necessary for the USSR Ministry of the Chemical Industry to actively develop its own machine building.

In his conversation with the workers, which was held at the enterprise, the CPSU Central Committee secretary studied the progress of restructuring, the introduction of financial autonomy, and how social questions among the collective are being tackled. In the final conversation with the management and specialists of the association the need to improve work in the new conditions were stressed.

Together with Comrade Baklanov were Comrade Afonin, head of the Chemical Industry Department of the CPSU Central Committee; Comrade Bespalov, USSR minister of the chemical inudstry; and other party and economic leaders.

Editorial on Ideological Education Published
PM1705165488 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
18 May 88 First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Educating Committed Creators of Restructuring in the Principles of Renewal"]

[Text] The editorial mail these days, as preparations for the 19th all-union party conference are stepped up, includes more and more letters devoted to problems of the spiritual renewal of our society and the political, ideological, and moral tempering of Soviet people in the light of the restructuring that is under way in the country. And this is, of course, no accident. We all feel that glasnost and the democratization processes have stimulated society's spiritual life and opened up access to profound sources of social initiative. What we call socialist pluralism is asserting itself ever more boldly in the country—an atmosphere conducive to out-of-the-ordinary thinking and the free rivalry of ideas.

At the same time we cannot fail to notice the braking forces that are making themselves felt. The item that appeared in the newspaper SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA

on 13 March had the ring of a manifesto, an ideological platform, for these antirestructuring forces. The vast majority of readers expressed solidarity with the position set forth in the PRAVDA editorial article "Principles of Restructuring: Revolutionary Nature of Thinking and Acting." But this should not be grounds for complacency. The consolidation of forces, cohesion around restructuring, loyalty to its Marxist-Leninist conception—that is what should determine our efforts today.

The novelty of the problems of cultivating spiritual culture is today determined, as was noted at the CPSU Central Committee February Plenum, by the direct appeal to man, the turn toward his real nature, potential, and needs.

"What we must do," M.S. Gorbachev noted at the recent meeting with leaders of the mass media, ideological institutions, and creative unions, "is, in all spheres of life, including the spiritual sphere, to overcome the main obstacle—the alienation that unfortunately occurs under socialism, when it is deformed by authoritarian and bureaucratic distortions. To overcome alienation, bureaucracy, and formalism is possible only through democratization and glasnost, through the moral cleansing of our society."

A tremendous role in resolving these tasks belongs to party propaganda and agitation and the mass media. And much has been done in this direction. But the main work, of course, lies ahead. From the standpoints of today it is especially evident how far the practice of certain ideological departments and workers fell behind the urgent demands of life during the stagnation years. And even now the old, often outdated stereotypes still frequently prevail over us.

"I personally have formed the impression," Leningrader V. Torolov noted in a letter published in PRAVDA recently, "that our vast ideological apparatus rather lost its way when real efforts, actual work, were required, and not just 'supporting slogans,' when the habitual, conventional thinking no longer sufficed...." One may, of course, argue about how far the reader is right in his generalizations, but is not that the point of the searching discussion, characterized by Bolshevik frankness, that was and is today under way at party committee plenums and meetings devoted to the Communists' tasks in light of the decisions of the party Central Committee February plenum and to preparations for the 19th all-union party conference? After all, even in selecting candidates for election as conference delegates, in some places, judging by reports from the localities, people still put their trust in instructions and "orders" of some kind instead of turning directly to the opinion of the party organizations and labor collectives. [This and following variations are from the Second Edition of Moscow PRAVDA in Russian for 18 May, which also publishes this editorial on page 1. The Second Edition omits the word "directly" from the preceding sentence.]

Today the task of doing as much as possible to stimulate people's initiative and overcome their passivity, civic mediocrity, apathy, and inertia in thinking—those patent flaws in command-and-administer methods—has come to the fore. It need hardly be said what significance, in this atmosphere, is attached to every new shoot of living experience of ideological restructuring, every lucky find in the quest for more effective ways of improving the moral climate in our society.

And there are plenty of these finds. Political clubs and "hot lines," all kinds of "roundtables" and "open letter days," information conferences.... [The PRAVDA Second Edition omits rest of this paragraph] In Almetyevsk, Naberezhnyye Chelny, and a number of other cities in Tataria sociopedagogical complexes are operating successfully. They incorporate family clubs, various amateur associations and youth discotheques, "do it yourself" workshops, and evening kindergartens. Their main asset is the atmosphere of unconstrained intercourse and the opportunity to unite people around an important, interesting subject. Experience worthy of attention.

The rapid upsurge in social activeness has also called into being—especially among young people—a large number of associations and groups of various kinds that it is customary to call informal. Not everything is of equal value and not everything is acceptable in their endeavors. Along with interesting initiatives, fresh ideas, and unconventional approaches, one also comes across highly debatable and sometimes patently immature views, positions, and concepts. And here too there is plenty of work for our ideological aktiv. Here too certain propagandists, lecturers, and party and Komsomol workers, to use an expression from the letter quoted, have rather "lost their way."

And indeed: The time of "bans" has gone, let us hope beyond recall, and certain workers, when it comes to a well argued dispute on equal terms or a principled, assertive polemic, do not have the knowledge, the boldness, or the experience of communication in an atmosphere of debate. But in order to fight successfully for people's hearts and minds, in order to win the clash of ideas, it is necessary to have much knowledge and many skills, to strengthen the unity of word and need, and to spare no time or effort in mastering the fundamentals of political maturity.

Practice shows that far from everyone is ready for this work yet. Here, for instance, is what Yu. Terin from the settlement of Novyy Byt in Sverdlovsk Oblast writes: "Even among leading party cadres many, in my observation, have quite a good knowledge of production issues, but frankly have a poor mastery of the fundamentals of Marxism-Leninism. Surely that is why all their speeches smack more of an economic leader's report, while the exposition of ideological matters boils down to a collection of quotations, to the point or not. And that is why these workers avoid polemical discussions on any pretext whatever, fearing embarrassment."

That is, one feels, in many respects a fair comment. "Evasiveness or lack of principle on theoretical matters," V.I. Lenin wrote, "in a revolutionary era, are tantamount to total ideological bankruptcy, because what we need now is a thoughtful, firm world outlook so that the socialist masters events, rather than events mastering him." That was said more than 8 decades ago, but is it not topical, that thought of Lenin's, in our day, in the period of revolutionary restructuring of Soviet society, when it is exceptionally important in all circumstances to have a firm mastery of events?

Questions of patriotic and international education also take a new form in today's conditions. The recent events over Nagorno-Karabakh, like the nationalist excesses in the Baltic region and Alma-Ata, were further confirmation that true internationalism and genuine friendship are possible only given profound mutual resepct for the dignity, honor, culture, language, and history of every people. Soviet patriotism is a very great asset of ours, and it is incompatible with any manifestations of blind nationalism or chauvinism or any attempts at self-isolation, which inevitably lead to a spiritual impasse. [The PRAVDA Second Edition omits the phrase "which inevitably lead to a spiritual impasse" from the preceding sentence.]

The range of socioeconomic, political, and ideological problems that the party has to tackle on the path of revolutionary renewal is wide and varied. And there is only one key to success in this great and complex work: firmly and steadily to follow the revolutionary principles of restructuring: more glasnost, more democracy, more socialism.

Adamovich Warns of 'Antirestructuring' Forces
PM1805152688 Moscow SOVETSKAYA KULTURA in Russian 19 May 88 p 3

[Ales Adamovich article under the rubric "19th All-Union Conference: We Propose Discussion!": "On the Eve"]

[Text] About 10 years ago I was at yet another trial of our country's butchers, accomplices in the Nazi atrocities in Belorussia. This time those on trial were people who, together with the Germans, burned people alive in Khatyn and more than 100 other villages—the butchers and murderers of the 118th battalion and the battalion of Sturmbannfuehrer Derlivanger [as published].

There is no time limit for crimes against humanity.

The defendant Lakusta listened and listened to the denunciatory and confirmatory evidence of his former commander Meleshka, who was still acting as a witness at this trial—and all at once poor Lakusta could stand it no longer:

"Citizen judges! What is all this about? He was my platoon commander, he gave me orders, and now he is only a witness and I'm sitting here. Where is the justice?..."

A year later Meleshka was also tried, but at that moment the situation did indeed look bizarre.

...The immediate subordinates of the organizer of the mass repressions of the twenties, thirties, and forties were expelled from the party—Molotov, Kaganovich, Malenkov (Molotov was reinstated in the party under Chernenko), and Beriya was shot.

But the inspirer and organizer of all the acts of lawlessness, tortures, shootings, in which these people took part—what about him? Perhaps his subordinates could also say indignantly: "What is this, citizens? He gave the orders!"

Lists exist, though of course far from all of them have survived, dozens of lists of tens of thousands of people, lists signed and sealed by the hand of Stalin and the hand of Molotov, sentencing people to torture ("beat him, beat him!") and shootings, and these terrible lists also include women and even children.

Those who do not like our break with the Stalinist past, who are gripped by nostalgia for the "good old days" (take the April issue of MOLODAYA GVARDIYA, read Comrade Malakhov's letter)—I wonder how he and those who helped him would regard the Stalin and Molotov lists, if, for instance, they were reproduced on the television screen? And what if we had 15, 20, or 30 minutes' silence in the evening, several evenings in a row! As yet there is no monument to the victims of the Stalinist repressions—yet the whole people should bow down before their torments, their memory....

After that, how could anyone find arguments in favor of the "best friend of Soviet children"?

I think some people would, some people do. I am even sure of it, after reading a letter from a former deputy prosecutor from Kharkov. He stubbornly signs his missives to writers and court actions against those who offend the "honor and dignity of I.V. Stalin" thus: "participant in the Great Patriotic War" so-and-so. But he is in no hurry to explain that he is a former deputy prosecutor. (I did not know this, when in MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI, talking about him and his court action against me, I made some respectful gesture toward a "soldier." Believe me, I would not have paid respect to a military prosecutor. I saw enough of them when I was in the partisans.)

So this defender of "honor and dignity" declares resolutely: Trofim Lysenko's son is right to claim that Academician Vavilov "slandered himself."

The staunch lawyer of Stalinist times writes: "You say: 'Vavilov was tortured'... But the point is that under the law, the use of torture and other unlawful methods can only be regarded as grounds for revoking a sentence if a verdict has been pronounced on the persons who used these methods. So was there an investigation concerning investigator Khvat, who supposedly used torture on Vavilov?"...

Do you hear the triumphant defender of butchers, gloating over what is, frankly, our liberalism? Aha, in the sixties they let the butchers evade the courts and hide, until the prescribed time had expired (here, for some reason, a "time limit" is allowed). Well, tough! It is not your verdicts, but ours that remain in force!...

When you read things like that, you groan as if you had toothache, but what then, how can you reply, if it is not a person facing you, but a brick wall.

Others are threatened not with the courts, but with murder. Igor Bestuzhev-Lada wrote about this in NEDELYA. And recently a "last warning" (with a marked emphasis) was received by Svetlana Aleksiyevich, and through her by myself and Bykov. ("If you continue blackening Iosif Vissarionovich Stalin.")

Well, the lists of Stalin's victims are so endless that your name will not make them appreciably longer....

We still try to persuade ourselves and others that restructuring has no opponents, there is only some kind of "braking mechanism." Is it a good thing, is it, indeed, useful for restructuring itself to fail to see the whole truth? If restructuring is a revolution, then counterrevolution (by the apparatus, the bureaucracy) is always looming on the horizon. If an antirestructuring banner has sprung up, it is not only a woman's hands that hold the flagstaff. It was not Lidiya Timoshuk who launched the "doctors' case" in those days—the organizers of such things seem to have a strange tendency to hide behind a woman.

No, but all the same one wonders whom they would pick out, whom they would light upon as the leader of a great country? As the person responsible for the life or death of the planet itself—that is how it is, today. Remember how they proclaimed Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, a man, on the whole, without malice, but the people were perplexed: All they knew of him was that he "sharpened Leonid Ilich's pencils." What was absolutely clear and comprehensible even then was that someone urgently needed to prolong the Brezhnevian system.

Is it those days, or earlier days, that the opponents of restructuring would now like to revive, one wonders?

In the newspaper SOVETSKAYA KULTURA (for 30 April this year) we noticed a short letter from Ya. Borokhovich of Nizhnevartovsk. A friend from Minsk said to me: "There is nothing more damaging than statements like that...." Here is the letter:

"It is a peculiarity of our political system that the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee is also leader of our country. Therefore his replacement or appointment is by no means an internal affair of the participants in Central Committee plenums. The final decision should be for the people, and therefore should be submitted to a nationwide referendum.... Then we will be secure against chance circumstances in which our country's future is decided within a narrow circle of voters. At the moment a plenum at which M.S. Gorbachev could be removed with the formula Gelman mentions, 'For glasnost without limits,' or with some other formula, is a real possibility. The party apparatus is by no means everywhere unanimous or always sincere in its support of our leader. If an attempt is made to block restructuring, this time the people will not keep quiet. Nearly all the citizens of the Soviet Union are for Gorbachev, against him are a handful of people sitting it out behind the double doors of their offices!"

My friend from Minsk, grown wise through living, himself a former apparatchik, meant, when he spoke of the danger of such publications: "They suggest to the apparatchiks the idea that it is possible. It had not even entered their heads, but now they are wondering: Should we give it a try?"

I think they have done a good deal of thinking since Khrushchev's time. So my friend is wrong. But the author of the letter is also, I believe, not quite right in his optimism.

In view of the experience of those few weeks, when just one article in a newspaper, accompanied, of course, by authoritative actions in support of it, made our journalists, in their trenches, fall silent—as if all their bullets had suddenly warped in the cartridge chambers!—it is no use relying too much on the idea that the people "will not keep quiet." Let us not leave it too late!

No, the party conference, which could be a turning point in the history of socialism, and therefore of the world, it and its participants should know, feel, and hear (and perhaps see, out of the windows of the Kremlin Palace) that indeed, "the people and party are united." People write and propose that the conference halls and platforms should be seen and heard by the whole country all the time. But they, too, could constantly see and feel the people's support—they, the consistent fighters for the course of the 27th party congress, for restructuring. They could see from there, from the session hall—in Red Square, in the streets of the capital....

But that is in June, when the party conference opens; today the most important thing is how the party conference will be elected, and that means who will be elected.

Election of Non-Party Delegates Advocated
PM1805150688 Rome LA REPUBBLICA in Italian 14 May 88 p 9

["E.M." interview with Yuriy Afanasyev, identified as rector of the USSR Higher Institute of Historical Records; date and place not given]

[Text] Moscow—A fortnight ago Yuriy Afanasyev shut himself in his office of rector of the Higher Institute of Historical Records, took a piece of paper, and wrote down the plan for his electoral revolution: "I want to know who I am voting for. I will no longer agree to vote for faceless people who remain silent and do not speak their thoughts or say which side they are on, what policy they have in mind, or what line they will pursue." Just 8 days later the great hall of the Institute hosted, alongside Afanasyev, directors, intellectuals, and scientists led by Andrey Sakharov. After 3 hours of discussions a plan emerged for an end to the imposition of electoral candidates from above. From now on, starting the with choice of delegates to the party conference, there must be several candidates to every post. It does not matter whether they are CPSU members or not, as long as they appear on television and in the streets at proper meetings and explain what they want. "So they call them American-style methods? I see it differently," Afanasyev said: "They are the methods of a civilized society, period."

[Interviewer] Professor Afanasyev, why has this plan for an electoral upheaval come just now?

[Afanasyev] Because the conference is the key that can open wide the old doors of the party and change its internal mechanisms. The choice of delegates is the key that can set the conference in motion and steer it in the right direction. All this is by no means to be taken for granted. If the old methods of choosing prevail and if the new proposals are not accepted all the enemies of perestroyka will be elected.

[Interviewer] Is this why you have joined the fray?

[Afanasyev] Of course. We are worried. When we wonder who will end up in control of the conference we are actually asking another question: Will perestroyka prevail or will it be defeated? This is difficult to answer for the present.

[Interviewer] So does Gorbachev's victory paradoxically depend on a scaling down of the party?

[Afanasyev] The party must resolve to become something that leads, no longer something that orders and imposes. Meanwhile it must start by not dictating the names of delegates to the candidates. Thus delegates will be really elected by the people, not appointed from the top and in a sham election.

[Interviewer] Are you not planning something impossible, such as wresting the party from the party's control?

[Afanasyev] It is not only the party that is at stake. For instance, I believe that we should also elect to the conference delegates that are not party members, chosen from outside the CPSU. Many disagree and say that it is a party conference, so that delegates cannot come from outside. In fact the conference is taking place to defend and develop perestroyka, which is something close to the hearts of many people who are not CPSU members. Their voices must be heard on the same basis as that of the party.

[Interviewer] Have you read the PRAVDA editor's opinion? It is diametrically opposed to yours: He says that an attempt is under way here to dissolve the party within society. How do you reply to that?

[Afanasyev] I do not understand such fears. The party can stay where it is. The conference must go further, however; it must rally all the forces that support perestroyka and consolidate them.

[Interviewer] Do you envisage a limited and controlled pluralism—that is, the socialist pluralism that Gorbachev is talking about—or something else?

[Afanasyev] Economic pluralism has already been recognized in this country. A kind of social pluralism is also accepted because we are not all born to be equal. Why can there not be political and ideological pluralism in the USSR? A normal country must lead a normal political life, with differing and even conflicting stances.

[Interviewer] Meanwhile TASS labels the founders of the USSR's first opposition party provocateurs. In your opinion does "political normality" also require a multiparty system?

[Afanasyev] I honestly believe we have not exhausted the possibilities of creating real socialist pluralism within a single-party system. There is vast scope. When democratization really involves our lives and we have actually achieved economic and social pluralism, I believe we could then feel constricted by a system based on a single party. Then the need for a multi-party system will naturally emerge from the situation.

[Interviewer] Meanwhile you want to introduce the idea of an election campaign in the USSR. What specifically do you have in mind?

[Afanasyev] Giving people back the opportunity to choose who is to represent them. Our life in recent years has brought us to this step. People now think and see things differently. So let there be as many candidates as there are opinions, without any limits. This is not enough, however. Once these people have committed themselves, they must compete with each other; speak at meetings, conferences, and rallies; and describe their ideas and platforms, perhaps supported by a group of friends who think the same way. I know none of this has ever existed in the USSR, even in the twenties. Well, now the time has come.

[Interviewer] What is your reply to those who say that this is not politics but political fantasy in the USSR?

[Afanasyev] I understand the shock but consider it salutary. Of course it is frightening for some people to think of all the informal groups meeting and choosing their representatives to the conference, of a representative of non-party members standing up and speaking on television before an election to explain how he sees things. I am in favor of such a fantasy. I want to see Andrey Sakharov on television; I want him to be able to vote at the conference.

[Interviewer] Professor Afanasyev, why are you counting on television to dismantle the old bureaucratic apparatus?

[Afanasyev] Because we need to involve people and reach their homes. Television can and must do this. In fact I propose a television debate among all the candidates giving citizens the opportunity to phone in their opinions and choices right away.

[Interviewer] Do you want to move on from a non-vote to an electronic vote in a single leap?

[Afanasyev] I want to put an end to the spectacle of milkers, peasants, and teachers elected en bloc by quota as delegates to congresses and conferences, irrespective of their beliefs. Our milkers are good, very good, but they must only attend congresses and conferences if people choose them.

[Interviewer] Do you not believe that the apparatus will obstruct these proposals to the bitter end?

[Afanasyev] I am sure of it, and it has many means for doing so.

[Interviewer] Why do the Soviet newspapers not publish them meanwhile?

[Afanasyev] I have submitted them to IZVESTIYA, SOVETSKAYA KULTURA, and OGONEK. I am waiting.

[Interviewer] Professor Afanasyev, you envisage an electoral revolution to defend perestroyka, but has perestroyka really been in danger during the 3-week battle since SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA's pro-Stalinist manifesto?

[Afanasyev] Look, I know what I see. The manifesto appeared and was immediately photocopied, distributed, read, and publicized throughout the party at the local level, with secretaries coming out in support. We have seen that the opposition exists. Not only is it horizontally widespread throughout the country but it also extends vertically a long, long way up. We have realized that there is a "command" behind it. Anyone acquainted with this country's history [illegible] felt a shudder down their spine.

Tatu: 'Major Shake-Up' Needed Before Conference

PM1805142288 Paris LE MONDE in French 18 May 88 p 7

[Michel Tatu article: "Mr Gorbachev's 'Revolution' Requires Renewal of Top Cadres"]

[Text] With the approach of 28 June—the date on which the party conference starts—several "organizational" questions have surfaced in the debate in the Soviet press. How will the 5,000 conference delegates be chosen? Will the conference have the power to renew the party Central Committee and to what extent? These questions, which are closely linked, have a direct impact on the general secretary's authority and on the credibility of his policy.

First, there is the Central Committee. As the accompanying table shows [reference to table accompanying the article depicting changes in the composition of the CPSU Central Committee since March 1986], a major shake-up is needed in this institution which acts as the party's and country's parliament. More than half of the members are survivors of the 1981 26th congress, more than one third were already members 12 years ago, in 1976. If we add to this number the 31 members who were already candidate members (able to attend sessions without the right to vote) 6 years ago, we can conclude that 65 percent of the present members are relics of the Brezhnev era.

"Dead Souls" [subhead]

It should also be noted that these 306 members, who were not so young at the end of the first "Gorbachev" congress in spring 1986, have aged over the past 2 years: There are in their ranks twice as many people in their seventies (13.7 percent) as there are members under 50 years old, and the 60-70 age range (36.8 percent) is even higher than it was in the eminently "gerontocratic" Central Committee elected under Brezhnev in 1981 (36.5 percent).

Finally and more especially, with the changes in officials which have been made over the past 2 years, the Central Committee contains a high proportion of "dead souls": members who have lost the positions which gave them a seat in the party's parliament, but who nonetheless still occupy that seat. There were a small number of these people in the 1986 election, when Brezhnevian dignitaries who had already been retired were reelected to the Central Committee, against all expectations, notably Mr Tikhonov, former chairman of the Council of Ministers, Mr Baybakov, former chairman of Gosplan, and Mr Ponomarev, formerly a permanent fixture as chief of the party's International Department. But there are now 41 such people, in other words 13.4 percent of the Central Committee.

There is a whole series of new officials pawing the ground at the door of the Central Committee, eager to occupy the positions still held by the old members and "former" officials. Mr Tolstykh, a deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers appointed last year, is not a Central Committee member or even a member of the party's less prestigious Central Auditing Commission. There are also 28 ministers in this position, as against only four 2 years ago.

But it is primarily at the level of the party's regional cadres that the situation needs to be normalized. These officials traditionally form the largest group of Central Committee members: 77 in 1986 as against 50 seats for ministers, for example. However this group has been reduced: There are now only 57 regional first secretaries among the Central Committee members, in other words slightly more than one third of the 157 "prefects" [prefets] as against almost half 2 years ago.

The paradox is even more obvious if you look only at the "hard core" of regional cadres, those who head a region or autonomous republic of the Russian Federation. Of the 74 members of this elite body, 70 were Central Committee members in 1986, 56 of them full members. This body now contains only 42 full members, 11 candidate members, and one member of the Central Auditing Commission, and 20 other "prefects" who have no seat.

The total number of candidates for full Central Committee membership is more than 40, even if the traditional rules invoked by the conservatives themselves are observed. And this number would be much higher if it was decided to include in the Central Committee more of the "vital forces" to which several Gorbachevian authors refer—enterprise managers, academicians, and other intellectuals. In the first case, the rules laid down in 1939 ought at least to be implemented, namely that party conferences have the right to renew one fifth of the Central Committee. In the second case, there ought quite simply to be a new election, as is the case at a congress.

Mr Gorbachev wanted this conference to provide himself with a Central Committee closer to his views now, without having to wait for the next ordinary congress scheduled for 1991. But apparently nothing has yet been decided, not even the minimum formula of a 20 percent renewal. And we remember the example of Khrushchev who, faced with the same problem after the expulsion of his opponents from the Politburo, convened an "extraordinary congress" in 1959 but, at the last minute, had to abandon any idea of obtaining the slightest change in the composition of his Central Committee.

The Key Role of the "Prefects" [subhead]

This question is closely linked with that of the composition of the conference itself. Mr Gorbachev has asked that the 5,000 delegates should all be ardent supporters of restructuring (this has even become a "condition" for being chosen), but this criterion seems rather limited. The choice of the delegates by local party committees after consulting the "grass roots" offers a more practical method, but this still leaves broad decision-making power in the hands of local apparatuses, and hence the "prefects" mentioned previously.

However, many of these "prefects" belong to the old school: Almost one out of four has held his post since the Brezhnev era, and one in five was appointed under Andropov or Chernenko. Within the "hard core" of the Russian Federation, the proportion of these "pre-Gorbachev" first secretaries exceeds 47 percent.

Moreover, the 86 "prefects" appointed since 1985 do not seem so new on close inspection. Six of them had already been first secretaries previously; they were simply moved from one region to another. Twenty-three were also secretaries (but not first secretaries), most in the same region, 22 others worked in the local government apparatus, 16 in the Moscow Central Committee apparatus, and five in the equivalent apparatus in their republic. If we add to this the former city and rayon first secretaries, there is scarcely any room left for elements who are really external to the apparatus: Only 14 of the 80 new party regional chiefs worked in factories and only one headed an industrial establishment.

It is also worth noting that, contrary to the usual procedure before a congress, the changes in regional cadres have been very limited over the past few months. Only 12 regions have changed "prefect" since last September, four of them in the Russian Federation, whereas in the nine months before the 1986 27th congress, there were 37 and 18 such changes respectively. The apparatus has clearly not been prepared for a major shake-up at this conference.

How can there be a "revolution" (the word is being used increasingly in Moscow instead of restructuring) with such unrevolutionary human resources? Mr Gorbachev rightly decided that political reform was the precondition for the success of the current economic reform. He

may now be observing that there is also a precondition for this political reform: A much broader renewal of cadres than there has been in this sphere for the past 3 years.

PRAVDA Readers on Election of Delegates

PM1805105788 [Editorial Report] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 17 May 1988 in its Second Edition carries on page 2 under the rubric "Elections of 19th All-Union Party Conference Delegates Under Way" and the headline "Test of Maturity" a roundup of three readers' letters prefaced by the following editorial introduction:

"Elections of delegates to the 19th All-Union CPSU Conference are continuing. To judge from telephone calls to the editorial office, telegrams, and letters, this campaign has aroused people's tremendous interest. Very many are concerned about who will be selected for the conference and who will hold in their hands the fate of the decisions adopted on vitally important problems of our society and of socialism.

"The CPSU Central Committee has spoken out clearly and precisely on these questions: Ardent champions of restructuring and active Communists must be elected as delegates, there must be no quotas and no overregimentation, but a maximum of glasnost and democratism, and the public must be involved in the discussion of candidacies. Is such an approach triumphing everywhere? Here are the opinions of our newspaper's readers."

The first letter (500 words) is from V. Upolovnikov of Osh in the Kirghiz SSR. He describes how the party conference delegate at Osh Large-Panel Housebuilding Production Association was selected by the plant party organization secretary without any consultation with the work force, and the delegate himself did not know he had been chosen until the writer of the letter informed him of the fact. He concludes: "I thought that willful, edict-style methods, secrecy, and formalism had been condemned. But, as we see, there's life in the old dog yet. Some people, while verbally campaigning for democratic approaches, are continuing to keep everything in their fist behind their back."

The second letter (1,100 words) is from O. Yakimov, editor of the Yakutsk newspaper SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA YAKUTIYA, who describes the "democratic" way in which nominations for party conference delegates were discussed in various labor collectives in the Yakutsk ASSR and also at an obkom plenum. Toward the end of the letter, however, the writer states that "certain plenum participants voiced dissatisfaction that no critical remarks or comradely advice to the obkom first secretary, the chairman of the republic Council of Ministers, or other leading workers had been heard from the rostrum."

The third letter (300 words) is from S. Gribakin, senior foreman at an aluminum plant in Krasnoturinsk, Sverdlovsk Oblast. He describes how he learned from the local radio that the conference delegate had already been chosen in his name at a hastily convened plant meeting at which no other candidates were allowed to be nominated: "It was all over in a few minutes—according to the old yardsticks of the stagnation period. Things evidenly proceed more calmly like that. Why consult ordinary Communists, as the Central Committee demands? They will suddenly produce their own delegate candidates, different from those of the party committee and the party gorkom."

Diversity of Journalists' Views Debated

PM1805105988 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 14 May 88 p 3

[Roundup of readers' letters under the "Reader Continues Discussion" rubric: "In the Truth Genre"—first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Text] "Crisis in the Genre?" ["Krizis zhanra?"]—this was the headline of an article by A. Novikov published 12 March, in which the writer contemplated the problems which have built up in the field of international journalism. In his opinion, domestic journalism has made great progress—both in terms of independent thought and in terms of the acuteness of the problems it raises. As for the coverage of international problems, that is still insipid and monotonous in many respects. In the editorial postscript we invited readers to discuss this topic and we have to date already received more than 350 letters. One of them has already been printed, and today we are publishing a selection of comments in response to the article "Crisis in the Genre?" We express our gratitude to everyone who, through their correspondence, has taken part in this readership discussion.

How would I like our international journalism to look? First of all, subjective. Yes, subjective! Since lack of personality—the subject—is irreplaceable. There is no pleasure in watching our international specialists on the television conducting an interview with foreign politicians: No independent opinion, or lively thought, or the ability to firmly (and at the same time courteously) stand up for our values and ideals.

Second, I would like it to be competent. When you read an international report, you are primarily seeking comparisons: How do we look in the international context? Where have we lagged behind? Where have we been successful? Honest and sensible comparisons, of course, rather than a rosy-hued haze.

Last, I would like it to be on the ball. We criticize bourgeois journalism for its sensationalism, but some of us could learn a few things from it too.

[Signed] Doctor of Juridical Sciences V.V. Isakov, associate professor at the Sverdlovsk Juridical Institute.

I thought that the "Crisis in the Genre?" notes contained only one questionable opinion—saying that with hindsight it is...stupid now to accuse journalists specializing in international affairs of conformism and lack of principle on the grounds that writers in the past could have had to pay for their failure to go along with official opinion. By making such a statement you are immediately handing out an indulgence by providing absolution for all subsequent sins. My ideal is not Galileo Galilei, who, fearing for his life, renounced his idea, but Giordano Bruno, who went to the stake.

Ultimately if it's impossible for you not to lie—don't write, leave the editorial staff. This may be immodest but I will say that this is what I did a few years ago. I worked for 25 years in the press and never demeaned myself or acted against my conscience, although we were tempted to lie on several occasions. Today not one of my articles puts me to shame in front of my children. Although I am still a member of the USSR Union of Journalists (since 1965), the way of journalism is effectively barred to me. I am now working in an academic institute.

As for our international journalism, in my opinion, the point here is not only the crisis in the genre itself, which is constantly experiencing bureaucratic pressure and diktat from above, but also that it is being methodically wrecked from within by parasitic careerists, who are winning splendid laurels, high titles, and all manner of awards for their conformism. You can hardly expect any substantial changes while these "masters" lord it and set the tone in our international journalism, in the press, and on the airwaves. Let only people like Kaverznev, who died young and Bovin, who is now thriving, remain in the ranks of international journalists. Fewer but better is certainly better.

[Signed] Viktor Khokhlachev, Kiev.

I side with the writer's opinion. In my mind's eye I can see to this day the still photograph which captured the moment when W. Gomulka was awarded the Order of Lenin (L.I. Brezhnev presented the order). But then events, which came as a bolt from the blue for all us ordinary television viewers, blew up in Poland: How did this happen among the Poles?

[Signed] L.N. Spasskiy, engineer, 54 years of age, Yaroslavl.

You don't like the fact that newspapers don't carry different opinions on the same question. But how can it be otherwise? For most of your fellow writers are party members. As members of a single party can journalists in general and international journalists in particular express different opinions on a single question? In that case the opinion of one of them will differ from the official opinion and that is fraught with....

Many countries which your fellow writers consider to be less democratic than our own publish declassified state documents after a certain lapse of time. This is not done in our country (evidently in our own interests). One can only guess, for instance, at what N.S. Khrushchev could have said at the 20th CPSU Congress about the cult of Stalin that was so terrible that his speech has still not been published 32 years later. Owing to the efforts of journalists specializing in international affairs we found out straightaway in great detail even the trivial details of U.S. President R. Nixon's resignation but we still do not know why our own president N.V. Podgornyy was dismissed in 1977. And so on and so forth...

[Signed] S.P. Salov, Donetsk.

Just one example. As soon as the next EEC or NATO session is scheduled, our international affairs journalists, with evident delight, rush to announce the disagreements tearing these organizations apart. At the end of these meetings we are told that "the problems have not been resolved" and that "questions remain." When the conversation turns to CEMA or Warsaw Pact sessions, everything is fine there. There are no problems. Clashes? God forbid! There never were any and never shall be. Excuse me, but I find this difficult to believe. If these organizations don't have any problems, then they are just for appearances and do no real work.

[Signed] S. Dresvyankin, worker, Sverdlovsk.

I cannot agree with A. Novikov's article "Crisis in the Genre?" What impasse is he writing about? He has taken it upon himself to lecture foreign policy observers and even criticize the state's foreign policy.

A. Novikov proposes self-criticism rather than criticism of the CIA and also proposes abandoning criticism of bourgeois ideology. He proposes deideologization instead of assertively propagandizing socialism's advantages.

As one of the readers of your newspaper, I believe that our political observers are highly qualified, understand the new political thinking, do not reject dialogue with bourgeois figures, and may themselves well teach A. Novikov a lesson in glasnost and the new thinking in international politics. Excuse my brusqueness.

[Signed] N.Ya. Sergeyev, participant in the Great Patriotic War, Ufa.

I personally am not interested in acquainting myself with international life when I read articles in KOMSOMOLKA like "Sinister Shadows" ["Zloveshchikh Teney"] in the 12 March issue, which said that some people in Vienna have organized an exhibition of Hitler's personal effects. In this connection the writer of the article reminds the Soviet reader of Austria's history and expresses amazement that pupils at "a Vienna high school" do not know "what really happened 50 years ago

in their own country." Well so what? Nor do I know what really happened in March 1938 in my own country although I have left my school days far behind me.

[Signed] S. Minochkin.

Newspapers and Central Television are hoodwinking readers and viewers on a massive scale. Whereas we have begun to read honest articles on questions of domestic Soviet affairs, there is either fact-juggling or mysterious silences instead of assessment of particular events in international affairs. Previously, the triumph of Soviet democracy was held up as an object for admiration but it now turns out thatt we are still only learning democracy. I still cannot find answers to certain questions. This is what interests me. Why have Palestinians not recognized the State of Israel since its formation? Given the parity in nuclear weapons which we were told about repeatedly several years ago why are we cutting back more missiles than are the Americans? Do our cosmonauts with the rank of colonel only go into space to investigate it for peaceful purposes? Do the East Germans want to unite with the West Germans, and has a nationwide public opinion poll been held on this question? What is the USSR's world ranking in terms of its people's standard of living and prosperity? I had an unpleasant surprise when I found out that the United States annually consumes twice as much meat per capita as we do. I am sure that as soon as you begin to gather material on these closed issues, you'll be restrained and told that the people don't need to know.

[Signed] Yevgeniy Davydov, 28 years old, Kuybyshev.

In an issue of the magazine TRIDTSAT DNEY dating from the twenties I saw a photograph of Chicherin, people's commissar for foreign affairs, in his office explaining the Soviet state's foreign policy actions to a delegation of workers. We had good traditions in the twenties!

[Signed] M. Shur, Gomel.

So, a crisis in the genre.... I would put it more precisely: A crisis of spirit. The article contains many incontrovertible theses, commonplaces, and great zeal. So you have now suddenly seen the light (a miraculous coincidence with April 1985 and February 1988). We (you) have realized, have suddenly perceived that everything has begun to move and breathe and blossom. The latest thaw has set in. But, forgive my frankness, with all the will in the world I cannot trust you. Have you any guarantee that there will not be a new freeze tomorrow? Do you have a reliable weather forecast for tomorrow? As has happened on more than one occasion, your brotherhood once again will take up its usual position "backstage" and high-flown words and noble impulses will fade because a "different time" will set in.

[Signed] M. Akchurin, Moscow.

Strictly speaking, what does A. Novikov need? No one needs pure glasnost. People are of the opinion that it is better to take garbage outside than to leave the apartment untidy. But people like A. Novikov forget that garbage always contains things which people shouldn't be shown. All of our former leaders were shown to be bad, but why broadcast this? Who are to be our role models?

[Signed] G.I. Antonov, ocean-going captain, Murmansk.

I read A. Novikov's article "Crisis in the Genre?" in your newspaper. And shortly afterwards I read A. Shinkarev's reply "Crisis? No, Regeneration" ["Krizis? Net, Vozrozhdeniye!"]. I cannot imagine this man off the rostrum: This serious, imposing figure stands there and declaims in well-modulated tones as follows: "Colleagues! We experienced journalists may understand Novikov. But what about young journalists?! They are still learning to tell 'home truths' and there will be no end of blunders: Friends will still fall out among themselves."

My opinion totally coincides with Novikov's: "No one has the right to decide what 'the people can know' and what 'they shouldn't know.' Comrade Shinkarev, didn't A. Novikov put your words in parentheses? I want to reassure you: I favor 'home truths' and comradely cooperation with socialist countries. Do you think that these concepts are incompatible?"

I don't see where you got the idea that Novikov is calling for "drawn swords" and "criticism right and left?" Not at all! He yearns for objectivity, for his easel and colored paints, real colors of life. The sharp contrast of black and white is bad for the eyes and is a source of rapid exhaustion, just like Georgian polyphony [free improvisation by many voices but within strictly defined parameters]. Youth lives to improvise, but in our era it is ridiculous to dance to just one single tune.

We cannot see our friends' faces for ultra-positive statements and red banners. Comrade Shinkarev, you talk about the rules of friendship. But flattery and friendship are are poor bedfellows.

Shinkarev concludes by stating the need to publicize and not hush up. Novikov too writes about this. So what is the crux of the dispute? One says that glasnost must be set fully on its own two feet. The other saw this as a call for frenzied faultfinding and is alarmed for the "young forces." It is not worth it, Comrade Shinkarev. Why do you think that if the people know everything that they will draw the wrong conclusions? Do you doubt people's awareness? But awareness becomes demoralized by lack of faith, which in turn is engendered by "authorized" and facile information.

[Signed] N. Aksenov, Miass, Chelyabinsk Oblast.

A few words about the inadvisability of a massive incursion into the field of diplomacy. First Soviet people unanimously approve Lenin's peaceful international policy and assess positively the USSR's activity in the field of international relations. So why interfere with this?

At the present the opinion is very widespread that things are hampered by insufficient glasnost, reticence, "embellishments" in the sphere of diplomacy, and so on. I think that these arguments are not sufficiently valid. Essentially it is something different that is hampering matters, namely: too much denigration of and faultfinding with our history.

[Signed] K. Fomin, veteran of war and labor and member of the CPSU since 1943, Moscow.

Administrator Kruchina Awarded Order of Lenin

PM1805112788 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 May 88 Second Edition p 2

["USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium Decree on the Award of the Order of Lenin to Comrade N.Ye. Kruchina"—PRAVDA headline]

[Text] It has been decided to award Comrade Nikolay Yefimovich Kruchina, CPSU Central Committee administrator of affairs, with the Order of Lenin for services rendered to the Communist Party and the Soviet state and in connection with his 60th birthday.

A. Gromyko, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

T. Menteshashvili, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

The Kremlin, Moscow, 13 May 1988.

Economic

Public Will Link Price Problems to Perestroyka

PM1905092588 Moscow NEDELYA in Russian No 19, 9-15 May 88 (Signed to Press 11 May 88) p 7

[Candidate of Economic Sciences A. Ulyukayev review of readers' letters as part of "Consumers' Correspondence Club" feature: "Higher, Higher, and Higher"]

[Text] The entire nervous system of the contemporary economy converges on a single sore spot—the problem of retail prices. Economic illnesses are latent. All there is on the surface is a nervous tic caused by existing, and even more so by proposed, price increases.

Journalists are distressed: People, they say, are indifferent, they are socially passive. But on reading just a small fraction of the "prices" mail that has arrived in the editorial office, you realize that the opposite is true: They are active and interested; they are trying to figure out complex problems. The range is extensive, from the unsophisticated "please explain why prices are rising" to wordy analytical and sarcastic treatises. This interest is understandable. People's lives are most directly dependent on prices.

What do the writers of letters to NEDELYA think? Only one out of the dozens of letters passed on to me by the editorial office—from pensioner M. Maksimov from Moscow Oblast—repeats the arguments in favor of price rises: huge subsidies, disparity between retail prices and purchase prices, excessive demand, and consequently shortages resulting from low prices. All the rest, either unreservedly or subject to some reservations, are against price increases, especially for foodstuffs. It could thus be assumed (rather conditionally, of course) that if a referendum on retail price changes were to be held, it would produce only a 3-4 percent vote "in favor." That is food for thought for directive organs.

I believe it is important to realize the following: The price reform in the guise in which it is presented in the press is unacceptable and could produce the most serious consequences in the form of massive opposition to restructuring. It is necessary to clearly realize that the public mind will link any difficulties—right up to drought and icy roads—with restructuring. Any rational arguments, unless backed up by psychological reasoning, are impotent against an interpretation of price reform as yet another attempt by "them" to set matters right at "our" expense.

Our "stringers" also pay much attention to more particular but equally acute price differentials. For example, A. Komarov from Moscow, B. Zamelman from Odessa, and A. Romanov from Grodno cite examples where the same item or service—a book or a jar of honey, washing powder or repairs to eyeglasses—is sold at a different price in different stores or workshops without any difference in consumer qualities. What causes this? I would say: the perfectly understandable desire of the most enterprising producers to use the simplest method to boost their economically accountable income in conditions of de facto lack of price monitoring. Is such monitoring necessary? I am convinced that it is. Does this mean a return to rigid diktat by the State Committee on Prices? By no means. Monitoring must be public rather than administrative. Only a Consumers' Association could implement it on such a massive scale that all instances of price inflation would come to light, and so effectively as to influence producers by every means, starting with newspaper items and ending with the organization of mass boycotts of persistent offenders.

Contract prices are literally on everyone's lips. In theory, the price contract assumes the existence of two "high contracting parties"—buyer and seller. The former is interested in low prices, the latter in high prices. And the contract price reflects their sensible compromise. But in our country the contracting (or conspiring) parties are equally interested in higher prices. This is advantageous

for the producer, the sectorial department, the trade network, and the financial organs. It is disadvantageous only for the consumer. But he is not a party to the contract.

Here is an interesting detail. Everyone complains about rising prices. But stocks of the most expensive items never accumulate. As the simple old comedy had it, the more expensive an item, the better for the industrial and financial plan and for us. There can be no argument concerning the plan. But why should it be better for us? First, because the buyer thinks identical goods at lower prices are a burden for producers and therefore probably of poorer quality. So it is better to pay a little bit more and get good service out of something, rather than spend a little bit less and then hurl it in despair in the darkest corner of the attic. Second, this reflects the population's desire to reliably invest its unreliable money, it is the effect of mistrust in the ruble and of the flight from it. This symptom is, apart from anything else, exceptionally serious.

People are extremely sensitive to the rising prices of medicines, especially for children. L. Sokolova from Donetsk Oblast cites quite glaring cases of young mothers refusing to buy prescribed antibiotics on learning that they cost R10-R15. "We'll manage without the shots. He'll get well soon!"

Let's all try to get well. For this purpose, let us learn to differentiate between the economic rationality of suggested measures and the extent to which they are psychologically and even politically acceptable by the people.

Experts Review Mailbag Debate on Cooperative Law

PM1805105188 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
15 May 88 Morning Edition p 2

[Interview with Doctor of Juridical Sciences Professor T.Ye. Abova by E. Parkhomovskiy: "People Influence the Law. The Opinion of Readers and Television Viewers is a Real Force Today"; date and place of interview not given—first paragraph is IZVESTIYA introduction]

[Text] A joint program by the Central Television Main Propaganda Desk and the newspaper IZVESTIYA was broadcast by Central Television 2 April. It was devoted to a discussion of the draft Law on the Cooperative System in the USSR. The anchorman asked television viewers to express their opinions on the questions raised. The editorial office received bags of letters. As promised from the television screen, we passed them on to experts. A special group comprising scientific associates of the USSR Academy of Sciences State and Law Institute and the Soviet Legislation Institute also studied the mailbag of other editorial offices and material published by the central and local press during the discussion of the draft law. It would be interesting to know what influence these letters and articles have had on the supplementary work done to the draft, and to what extent our public has gained a real right to speak up during the preparation of new laws. This question was asked by IZVESTIYA's correspondent of Doctor of Juridical Sciences Professor Tamara Yevgenyevna Abova who, on instructions from the State and Law Institute, led the work by this group of scientists.

[Abova] First of all I would like to note that the majority of the IZVESTIYA mail which was passed on to me, the mail received by other newspapers, and the material published by the press expressed approval for the draft law.

[Parkhomovskiy] Could this "majority" be expressed in percentage form?

[Abova] We have not calculated it specifically, but I could estimate it at over 90 percent. These are people who express approval in principle. But in some specific views they often take a directly opposite stance.

[Parkhomovskiy] What are the main differences between those who are, in principle, "for" and "against"?

[Abova] Those who are "against" believe that the cooperative system would lead to the deformation of socialism, that this is not our path of development. Those who are "for" recognize the need for and advantages of cooperatives, but their assessments of the draft law itself are by no means unambiguous.

[Parkhomovskiy] Could you identify the main contradiction here?

[Abova] I could. It is this. Some welcome the law's recognition of cooperatives as a valuable labor and social sphere. Others believe they must be an auxiliary, a secondary sphere and should utilize mainly secondary employment and the labor of housewives, invalids, students, senior school pupils.... We scientists believe that the law offers a correct solution to this question.

[Parkhomovskiy] How do cooperative members themselves react to the law?

[Abova] Mainly well, but once again not without reservations. Many were rather worried by the Decree on Progressive Taxation which was adopted 14 March. While accepting the principle of progressively rising taxation depending on cooperative members' personal incomes, they believe the scale has been incorrectly set and this will not stimulate the development of cooperatives. As a matter of fact we saw an identical initial reaction by cooperative members on your television program, when USSR Deputy Finance Minister Comrade Semenov announced this new development before anyone knew anything about it.

[Parkhomovskiy] What is the experts' attitude to this opinion among cooperative members?

[Abova] A unanimous opinion that the decree ought to be amended in favor of liberalizing the tax scale was expressed at a discussion of the draft law recently held in the Academy of Sciences and organized by two of its departments—the Economics Department and the Philosophy and Law Department. True enough, your readers did have different opinions. They proceeded from the premise that the R500 higher taxation threshold represents quite a high income. Very few people receive such salaries in the state sphere. Some suggested an upper limit on cooperative members' earnings—which, of course, would not help the development of their enterprise and initiative. Generally speaking, criticism is coming both from the right and from the left, as it were....

[Parkhomovskiy] There are just as many arguments about the question of cooperative prices. Many people consider them inflated and suggest ceilings.

[Abova] We assume that the draft law proceeds from the absolutely correct premise that price must be set by the market and determined on the basis of demand. But the draft law does contain certain restraints. It is said that a cooperative must not allow economically unjustified prices. Many readers believe that this formula is unacceptable. We hold the same view: The law ought not to contain such a provision. Today it is impossible to determine what is an economically justified cooperative price. It is, however, clear that the fuller the satisfaction of demand, the lower the price will be.

[Parkhomovskiy] Such a reduction will not require any government decisions....

[Abova] Precisely! This is a purely economic and free process. As a matter of fact, it is considerably influenced by the price of raw and other materials.

We assume that the draft law is based on a correct principle: If a cooperative obtains a state order and the raw materials to fulfill it, it must work at prices set by the state. But in such an event, as your readers correctly noted, there must be benefits when it comes to cooperative members' taxation.

[Parkhomovskiy] Incidentally, cooperative members who took part in our television discussion of the draft law said: Give us raw materials at state prices and we will guarantee output prices which will be lower than state retail prices.

[Abova] Many people suggest that the law should contain a provision prohibiting cooperative members from acquiring from state stores even items which are freely available for sale there, things like buttons or zippers. This, they claim, would often result in shortages. Of course, the store is for retail purchasers. There ought to be a small-scale wholesale trade network for cooperatives. There are very many similar suggestions both in the readers' letters and in the local press. This must certainly be taken into account by the law.

[Parkhomovskiy] What other questions have readers raised in their letters?

[Abova] Many are perturbed by the ratio of cooperative members to hired personnel. Some believe cooperatives should not employ any hired workers at all. Others feel that the number of such workers ought to be strictly limited by law. Yet others believe that such limitations are unnecessary, but suggest that there should be no differentiation between the rights of cooperative members and those of hired workers.

[Parkhomovskiy] Could you state the experts' attitude to these suggestions?

[Abova] I could. It is impossible to rule out a division between cooperative members and hired workers. It is impossible to force all people wishing to work in a cooperative to become members, to invest their money, to bear liability for its debts.... The draft law says that the proportion of cooperative members to hired workers must be set by local soviets. This is correct, and there is no need for amendments in this respect.

[Parkhomovskiy] On reading the editorial office mailbag on cooperatives, I noticed that many people are interested in the question of the procedure for registering and winding up cooperatives. Letter-writers cite examples of unjustified delays in registration and arbitrary winding up decisions by local soviets.

[Abova] Yes, we studied these letters and we believe that it is necessary to add to the draft law a provision that, in the event of local soviets' breaching the time limit for registration and provided there has been no prior objection by them, the cooperative's statute should be deemed automatically registered.

[Parkhomovskiy] What about closing a cooperative?

[Abova] It is in this sphere that it is very important to have the law, as it were, tie the hands of local authority officials so that their freedom of discretion is limited to the utmost. In this sense, the draft law is imperfect. It says that a local soviet can raise the question of terminating a cooperative's activity if it is against the law. What does this mean? For example, a cooperative fails to provide for a shorter working day for young workers. Is that against the law? It is. But should it be a reason to close a cooperative? This is why we suggested a formulation whereby grounds for closing a cooperative would be provided only by gross and systematic breaches of the law.

[Parkhomovskiy] The draft law says that cooperatives are allowed to engage in any activity except activities prohibited by law. Many readers believe that the types of activity prohibited for cooperatives ought to be determined by a single unionwide source.

[Abova] We noted this when studying the mail, and suggested the following addition to the draft law: "The list of types of activity prohibited for cooperatives will be determined by USSR legislation."

[Parkhomovskiy] Now let us turn to quality. Readers give considerable attention to this question.

[Abova] Yes, many of them write: The draft law's provision that cooperatives may have their own brand names and trade marks is inadequate. We also believe so. What we suggest is that trade marks should be mandatory for them. That brand names must be registered. This will enable purchasers to file complaints against cooperatives in respect of improper quality on the basis of the civil law. The question of guarantee periods is closely linked with the question of quality. This is also missing from the draft law. We assume that the guarantee given by cooperative members for consumer durables ought to be no less than that given by state enterprises.

[Parkhomovskiy] Readers write that cooperative members are now quite often forced to pay bribes for leasing non-housing premises, and they suggest the provision of legal incentives for local soviet officials in respect of active assistance in the setting up of a new cooperative. Money for this should be taken from the taxes paid by cooperative members into local budgets.

[Abova] We included a similar provision in our suggestions. But not quite the same. We were talking about enterprises helping the creation and development of cooperatives. But the idea about local soviets is also sound.

[Parkhomovskiy] What other proposals by readers were backed by the experts?

[Abova] That work in a cooperative counts toward the total and continuous time spent at work. This is not directly specified in the draft law. This is why we made this suggestion. Many readers expressed anxiety in case rayon agro-industrial associations used mandatory state orders to replace planning from above in the case of kolkhozes. Readers were correct in suggesting that kolkhozes and other agricultural cooperatives could, on strictly voluntary principles, conclude contracts with enterprises and organizations engaged in the procurement and processing of agricultural output for the sale of such output as part of the state order assigned by the agro-industrial association rather than "proceeding from it." In other words, it is up to the kolkhoz to decide.

[Parkhomovskiy] Many people, myself included, were amazed by the draft law provision giving cooperatives an opportunity to enter the international arena. Did the mail contain any suggestions on this account?

[Abova] They boil down to the proposal that entry to the external market should be determined not by a cooperative's size but by the competitiveness of its output. We backed this proposal by readers.

[Parkhomovskiy] Many thanks, Tatyana Yevgenyevna. I think the information provided by our conversation will not only help readers feel that they made up a real force in the discussion of the latest law, but will also give deputies additional food for thought when taking part in the debates at the USSR Supreme Soviet session which will adopt the USSR Law on the Cooperative System at the end of this month.

'Substantial Progress' Seen in Industry

PM1805103588 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 May 88 Morning Edition p 1

[Yu. Rytov report under the rubric "Statistics and Our Commentary": "Progress Being Made"]

[Text] The editorial office has just received the report of the State Committee for Statistics on the work of industry during January-April 1988.

During the last television quiz "What? Where? When?" its participants were asked an interesting question. It went approximately like this: "Once a quarter the USSR State Committee for Statistics publishes reports showing production of output: machine tools, machinery, footwear, and so forth. Which very important indicator, however, is missing from these reports, which prevents us from judging actual work results?" To applause from the audience the cheerful and quick-witted people replied: "Actual product sales," and the team received a point.

From my viewpoint, however, the answer is not quite accurate. Product sales regarding contract deliveries have long served as the basic indicator of enterprises' work. It is published in all statistical reports. We see from the latest report that during January-April contract pledges for product deliveries in accordance with the state order and with direct ties based on contracts with consumers were 99.3 percent fulfilled.

Is this a lot or a little? The report specifies: During the corresponding period last year this indicator stood at 98.3 percent. Thus very substantial progress is being made. Under the conditions of our tremendous national economy with its very complex cooperation ties (I will remind you that the products list contains 23 million items!) it is an appreciable step forward to have regularized contract relations and raised contract discipline by a whole 1 percent. And yet...

Some 14 percent of associations and enterprises failed to cope with the contract pledges. Consumers were undersupplied with products to the tune of R1.6 billion. This is what lies behind delivery failures of tenths of a percent!

Things are particularly bad at the Ministry of Heavy and Transport Machine Building (the proportion of enterprises which failed to fulfill the pledges stood at 62 percent), the Ministry of Construction, Road, and Municipal Machine Building (56 percent), the Ministry of the Electrical Equipment Industry (52 percent), and the Ministries of Chemical and Petroleum Machine Building and the Automotive Industry (42 percent). These figures themselves attest that we must on no account rest content with good (or almost good) average indicators. They conceal very gross failures in the work of several leading sectors at once...

The Ministry of the Electrical Equipment Industry, in particular, failed to fulfill the targets for many types of output envisaged in the state order. The volume of output not delivered amounted to one-third of the machine-building complex' arrears. Enterprises and associations of the Ministry of Chemical and Petroleum Machine Building are lagging substantially behind in fulfilling the state order's targets regarding chemical and oilfield equipment and other output. On the whole, enterprises of the machine-building complex failed to deliver specific types of output under concluded contracts to the tune of R325 million.

Enterprises of the chemical and timber complex are also lagging seriously behind in fulfilling the state order regarding production of certain very important types of output (raw material products and the basic range of synthetic resins and plastics). In practice, the arrears regarding these types of products not only did not diminish but even increased in April.

The state of affairs in the fuel and energy com[illegible] and the metallurgical complex and also in the industry of the construction complex is more pleasing. The majority of enterprises here are working steadily, and the most important deliveries are made in full and on schedule...

But now the figures of greatest interest to us. What is happening with food and industrial consumer goods?

It must be said at the outset there there is good news. The 4-month plan was overfulfilled regarding all kinds of foodstuffs (meat 108 percent, sausage products 103 percent, butter 111 percent, whole-milk products 104 percent, cheeses 105 percent...). What specifically lies behind these percentages? Compared with the same period last year, production of meat increased by 93,000 tonnes, butter by 33,000 tonnes, sausage products by 43,000 tonnes, and whole-milk products by 0.3 million tonnes.

A very modest increase, the reader might say. Yes, of course. Oh, what a long way we still have to go to resolve the Food Program in full. But the turning point is already clearly visible. There is no doubt that it is of a stable nature...

For the first time in a long time the targets for all the most important light industrial products were fulfilled (and overfulfilled). Including footwear. And even children's footwear! True, here too the increase compared with the same period last year is very, very modest. An increase of 0.8 percent for all footwear, for example. And 0.6 percent for children's footwear. But how I would like to hope that these modest fractions of a percent at last express a symptom of the sector's stabilization...

However, as is known, there is always a fly in the ointment. The statistical report attests that there are still many bottlenecks in light industry. Against a certain improvement in the fulfillment of contract pledges as a whole, 17 percent of USSR Light Industry Ministry enterprises still failed to cope with them. Consumers did not receive products and goods worth R200 million. The level of fulfillment of contract pledges is even lower at the Light Industry Ministries of the RSFSR (98.8 percent), Uzbekistan (98.9 percent), Georgia (98 percent), Azerbaijan (98.2 percent), and Kirghizia (99.1 percent).

The low quality of many products remains the scourge of the sector. In the first quarter of this year alone 21 million meters of all kinds of fabrics, 3.1 million pairs of footwear, and more than 1 million knitted and sewn goods were rejected or downgraded.

I would like, in passing, to cite some other data which show the acuteness of the question of the quality of industrial goods. As of 1 October last year, unmarketable and slow-moving goods worth R1,439,000,000 had accumulated in wholesale and retail trade! Last year products worth R2,417 million were displayed for a clearance sale following price reductions. Only 63 percent of them were sold... (Incidentally, it was probably precisely such indicators that the expert participants in the television quiz had in mind: actual consumption of output).

Thus, in my view, statistical reports now make it possible to judge the state of our production quite fully and objectively. The extent to which the resultant picture can satisfy us is another matter.

At present it cannot do so, although substantial progress is already noticeable.

Turkmen Official on Ensuring Prosperity

PM1905085588 Moscow TRUD in Russian 17 May 88 p 1

[TRUD correspondent A. Dzhapakov "Topical Interview" with A. Khodzhamuradov, chairman of the Turkmen SSR Council of Ministers: "Decide For Ourselves"; date and place of interview not given]

[Text] [Dzhapakov] Since the 27th CPSU Congress, which sharply criticized the state of the economy in the republic, definite changes have taken place. Labor productivity and production volumes are increasing. But there has nonetheless still been no radical breakthrough in the economy. What are the main reasons for this?

[Khodzhamuradov] I believe our republic has hitherto largely developed as a raw material base. Look: We produce 380,000 tonnes of cotton fiber per year of which we ourselves process only 2.5 percent, and even then we only obtain a semimanufacture. Turkmenistan occupies second place in the country for gas extraction but it does not process gas at all.

We produce raw materials but we import commodities right down to canned fruit and vegetables. Hence the financial problems and the subsidies. The situation is complicated by the fact that we have excess manpower resources. This is largely the result of a strictly centralized command economy where all decisions traditionally came from above. Today it is impossible to work in this way.

We will make a radical breakthrough in the economy with the transfer to self-sufficiency. We need to change from a republic producing raw materials into a region manufacturing commodities and finished output. Only then will we be able to get our economy on its feet.

[Dzhapakov] We have all learned well how to plan and set ourselves tasks. But how about the implementation of the plans?

[Khodzhamuradov] A great deal has been done. Above all to switch to new conditions of management and extend enterprises' independence. This is also helped by the new system of economic management which has been elaborated in the republic. Out of 45 ministries and departments, 32 remain. The managerial apparatus has been reduced by 7,000 people (25 percent). Previously it was 1.5 times larger than the national average.

There are also marked changes in people's psychology. Parasitic sentiments engendered by the habit of subsidies and the idea that the state will always help out are slipping away. Previously people knew that you only have to ask and they will give. Now they have begun to realize that no one gives anything—it has to be earned. Yet social psychology and the economy are two sides of the same coin. Changes are on one side and warning of the changes on the other. Nonetheless, in my opinion, these changes are still slow to occur.

[Dzhapakov] How can they be speeded up?

[Khodzhamuradov] I think it is now extremely important to broaden the sphere of local organs' independence. This must be, in my opinion, one of the most important questions for discussion at the 19th all-union party conference. Here is an example. Enterprises under union jurisdiction in our republic have the largest wages funds. But they produce an inexcusably small quantity of consumer goods: They produce between 2 and 10 kopecks' worth of goods per ruble of wages. These enterprises' collectives receive their wages from the republic's "purse" and they are in no rush to fill this purse by stepping up the manufacture of these goods.

Union ministries pay practically no attention to these questions: "Their" plan is dearer to them. Local organs are powerless to change anything here. Yet it is is the local soviets which have to resolve the most important questions since they are responsible for the prosperity of their territory's population.

The transfer to self-sufficiency also involves a transfer to self-management. Indisputably, this must not lead to parochialism or go against state interests. But we must nonetheless take an active and direct part in deciding how to develop the economy, what to construct, and what to produce to ensure the republic's prosperity.

Agricultural

Zaykov, Murakhovskiy Discuss Produce Supply

LD1805224488 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 18 May 88

[Text] Questions of improving the fruit and vegetable supply to the residents of the capital region and the experience of the Moskva Agro-Industrial Combine under new conditions were examined on 18 May by Zaykov, Politburo member and CPSU Central Committee secretary and Moscow City CPSU Committee first secretary. He met with senior employees of the CPSU Central Committee; the management of the USSR and RSFSR State Agro-Industrial Committee; and party, local soviet, and economic bodies of the capital and Moscow Oblast.

At the Moskovskiy Sovkhoz they analyzed their experiences in joining primary production, storage, processing, and marketing of agricultural output into a unified economic mechanism and the plans to further increase fruit and vegetable production output on the basis of raising the efficiency of farming and disseminating the practice of team and lease contracting.

They examined issues concerning setting up a direct line between the field and the shop, which will reduce the travel time of produce to the consumer and thus preserve its quality.

A lively discussion was held with the shoppers in a produce shop at the agro-industrial complex. It was stressed that the shortest path toward implementing the Food Program begins with the movement from the past command management methods to a direct interest by labor collectives in their results. Trade practices and the

supply of fruit and vegetables to the population will improve with healthy competition for customers among various suppliers and their direct sales trading enterprises.

Solving the food problem in the capital region is a composite part of the Progress 95 program and of other long-term plans. It should be implemented through joint efforts by the city and oblast and union and republican ministries and departments with the committed participation of other regions.

Murakhovskiy, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; Skiba, chief of the CPSU Central Committee Agriculture and Food Industry Department; and Mesyats, first secretary of the Moscow Oblast Party Committee, participated in the discussion.

Media Report 15-18 May Agricultural Developments

LD1905025788 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian, unless otherwise indicated, on 15-18 May. GMT times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

15 May

Potato sowing has been completed in Ryazan Oblast. The crop is planted on 65,000 hectares. (0104)

Mass grain sowing began today in the Virgin Lands of Kazakhstan and Siberia. (1100)

The sowing of corn was completed today in Donetsk Oblast. The crop covers 160,000 hectares. (1300)

16 May

The acreage of irrigated crop farming in Kirghizia now exceeds 1 million hectares from which kolkhozes and sovkhozes obtain over 90 percent of all output from field husbandry. (1330)

Ear formation in winter grain crops has started in Kirghizia's fields. The timely tending of crops and the abundance of spring rains have assisted a good development of the plants. The grain growers intend to obtain no less than 42 quintals per hectare on irrigated lands and no less than 25 on nonirrigated land. Crop farmers are growing barley and wheat under intensive technology on large areas. Whatever the weather conditions, this method guarantees a high yield. (1330)

In this haymaking season Kirghizia's field crop growers are to harvest natural grasses from almost 400,000 hectares. Let us recall that this year the crop farmers have pledged to procure almost 4.5 million tonnes of coarse fodders for publicly owned cattle for the winter. (1330)

17 May

In Kursk Oblast grain crops are planted on 250,000 hectares. One-half of the area has been sown to spring wheat. In recent years there have been problems with the provision of seeds at farms in the oblast. Many farms here received the grain seeds they lacked for the present sowing from state stocks. Experts believe one of the reasons for the shortage of seeds is the late date of sowing at seed plots. This year the farmers decided not to repeat this mistake. They started field work much earlier and the sowing of grain crops for seed purposes was carried out on the best land using mineral fertilizers. Sowing on most seed plots was completed before mass field work started. (0400)

Corn sowing has been completed throughout the Belgorod Oblast, on a total area of more than 250,000 hectares. (1300)

In Kazakhstan the crop farmers of Uralsk Oblast have started sowing grain crops. The belated spring has required from them the maximum mobilization of their efforts and resources. Over 15 million hectares are to be sown in the republic. The acreage under grain crops to be cultivated under intensive technology will increase. (1800)

18 May

Sowing of corn has been completed in the Ryazan non-Chernozem Zone, covering 170,000 hectares, using seeds with a protective film. This film made it possible to commence sowing 2 weeks earlier than usual. (0204)

The State Statistical Committee has published data today on the progress of field work in the sovkhozes and kolkhozes. The figures on the fulfillment of the sowing plan are absent in the report. This is connected with the fact that the structure of the areas to be sown is now planned from below, by the sovkhozes and kolkhozes themselves. And so, what has been done by 16 May? Various spring crops have been sown on almost 78 million hectares. From this cereal crops cover approximately 40 million hectares. Mass sowing has now started in the eastern part of the country, in the former Siberian and North Kazakhstan virgin lands. Due to the rain the sowing of spring wheat proceeded rather slowly in the areas adjacent to Volga and in the Urals. The areas sown with corn for seed are smaller than in the preceding years. On the whole, in the Russian Federation various cereal crops have taken one-half of the areas on which they used to be sown. In Kazakhstan they were sown on one-quarter of previous areas. The battle against weeds and plant disease has been carried out on 18 million hectares. This rate is double that of the last year. (1800)

Scientific

'Cosmos-1944' Satellite Launched 18 May

LD1805142588 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1417 GMT 18 May 88

[Text] Moscow, 18 May (TASS)—Another earth satellite, Cosmos-1944, was launched in the USSR today to continue space research. It has been put into an orbit with the parameters:

Initial period of revolution, 89.4 minutes;

Maximum distance from the earth's surface, 311 km;

Minimum distance from the earth;s surface, 205 km;

Inclination of orbit, 64.8 degrees.

The apparatus on the satellite is working normally.

USSR Cooperation in Space Highlighted

OW1905001288 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 0600 GMT 13 May 88

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] International cooperation in space programs means more than jointly launching man-made earth satellites into orbit and carrying out scientific experiments in these satellites. Since 1978, cosmonauts of various countries have made joint flights in spaceships. We wish to point out that the space flights of the Soviet Union's Soyuz and the United States' Apollo in 1975 became the pioneers of this type of joint work in the earth's orbit. But it was not the Soviet Union's fault that this type of cooperation was not duly continued.

We wish to repeat once more that when foreign cosmonauts began to make space flights in Soviet spacecraft in 1978, it was the Soviet Cosmonaut Gubarev and his Czechoslovak counterpart Remek who started cooperation in this field. After the spacecraft manned by Gubarev and Remek docked with the space station manned by Grechko and Romanenko, the members of the two crews carried out outstanding work in orbit. [passage omitted]

We wish to point out the names of those who have taken part in joint flights according to an international space program: They are Ivanov, cosmonaut from Bulgaria; Hermaszewski, from Poland; Jaehn, from the GDR; Farkas, from Hungary; Pham Tuan, from Vietnam; Mendez, from Cuba; Gurragcha, from Mongolia; and Prunariu, from Romania.

Joint space surveys have aroused keen interest in other countries. Soviet-French, Soviet-Indian, and Soviet-Syrian space flights are examples. [passage omitted] The second group of Soviet-Bulgarian cosmonauts will make a space flight very soon. The principal members of the group are Soviet Cosmonaut Solovyev, commander of the spacecraft, and Soviet Cosmonaut Savinykh. The other member of the group is Bulgarian Cosmonaut Aleksandrov. We would like to point out that the first Soviet-Bulgarian flight took place in 1979. [passage omitted] According to the plan of the joint space flight, the cosmonauts will join Soviet Cosmonauts Titov and Manarov in carrying out medical experiments and other experiments [words indistinct] in the Mir space station. In order to carry out 40 planned experiments, Bulgarian scientists have made very careful and outstanding preparations, as far as conditions permit. They are also prepared to provide various sectors of the Bulgarian economy with research results.

Space Research Coorperation With Finns Noted

LD1405025488 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1300 GMT 13 May 88

[Text] Helsinki, 13 May (TASS)—The participation of Finnish scientists in conducting a series of joint scientific experiments will become a graphic example of the fruitful development of Soviet-Finnish cooperation in the area of space research. This autumn a Soviet carrier rocket is to place an artificial satellite into polar orbit.

Measurements of the plasma density in the upper atmosphere and research into such phenomena as Aurora Polaris will be conducted within the framework of experiments. For this purpose special equipment and instruments have been developed. According to today's central Finnish newspaper, the data provided by the satellite will be processed by both Soviet scientists and the staff of a geophysical laboratory in the Finnish town of Sodankyla.

More on U.S.-Soviet Environmental Conference

LD1705124888 Moscow TASS in English 1146 GMT 17 May 88

[Text] Moscow May 17 TASS—"The study of the 'ozone hole' over Antarctica and the 'greenhouse effect' (the global warming of the earth's climate caused by the atmosphere's industrial pollution), the state of the plant cover and the world ocean will be the main areas of cooperation of Soviet and American scientists in the years to come," Soviet Academician Kirill Kondratyev told a press conference Monday. It was devoted to the results of a conference of the Soviet-American working group "Science About Earth" which closed on Monday.

The conference was held within the framework of a Soviet-American agreement on cooperation in research and peaceful use of outer space.

Kondratyev said that one of the most promising joint projects was the study of the ozone layer over Antarctica with the help of satellites, specially equipped planes, balloons and ground observation.

The "ozone hole" is a zone of twice reduced ozone density. It appears over Antarctica at the end of the polar night and disappears in mid-November.

The ozone density does not reinstate completely during the Arctic spring. Over the past few years the ozone level has been decreasing by 1.5-2 percent every year. The seriousness of the problem is explained by the fact that the ozone layer serves as a natural protection of all living things on earth from the hard ultra-violet sun radiation.

Kondratyev said that the degradation of the ozone layer was a result of a combination of natural factors and man's economic activity. The main cause here is an ejection of freons used in aerosol packages and refrigerator installations.

Coordinated efforts by scientists in both countries will lead to a deeper understanding of the ozone destruction mechanism and will make it possible to get a better idea of the scale of this phenomenon.

Samuel Keller, deputy assistant director of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), has said the protocol the sides signed on May 16 opened the way towards effective cooperation.

Writer Investigates 'Ethnic Weapon' Allegations

WA18070101 Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 10 4 Mar 88 p 44

[Article by NOVOYE VREMYA own correspondent A. Polyukhov: "Ethnic Weapon?"]

[Text] All of Sweden knows the energetic writer Sara Lidman. No event agitating the country, be it the struggle against the construction of a highway violating the ecological balance or protests against the American war in Vietnam, escapes without her participation and commentary. Now the popular author is trying to throw light on the problem of the creation of weapons which act only against certain genotypes of people.

"Can poisonous gas act selectively and do harm with great specificity?" Sara Lidman asks. "Director Roland Girard put together a program for French television about the work being done to create new chemical weapons. Girard reported the testimony of personnel in a South Korean abortion clinic, questioned the drivers atttached to a scientific laboratory, and came to the conclusion that human fetal tissue was being used for experiments in Fort Detrick—a U.S. military research center.

"Englishman Steven Rowes, a professor of biology and director of a center for the study of the brain, considers that such 'material' may be necessary to create binary chemical weapons," continues the Swedish writer. "These gasses are incredibly poisonous. A gas mask is no defense against them. It is known that American scientists are working on the solution to a problem: to make it possible to kill people of a certain race without harming others. We are speaking here of an ethnic weapon. One can suggest that the interest in importing fetuses from Asia is prompted by the attempt to create a weapon which will kill Asians but not Europeans.

"The official importation of fetuses from South Korea into Fort Detrick was banned in 1976," Sara Lidman explains, "but in the course of 7 years, they have managed to bring in 20,000 units of 'material'! Information about their transport by a Japanese airline company became known when a scandal broke out in Tokyo, but then everyone forgot all about it.... Perhaps other Asian countries have taken South Korea's place as supplier?"

Military

Zaykov, Military Chiefs Attend Gorshkov Funeral

PM1805111988 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 May 88 First Edition p 3

[Unattributed report: "On His Last Journey. Farewell to Admiral of the Fleet of the Soviet Union S.G. Gorshkov"]

[Excerpts] Yesterday Soviet servicemen and working people of the capital took their leave of Twice Hero of the Soviet Union Admiral of the Fleet of the Soviet Union Sergey Georgiyevich Gorshkov, loyal son of the Communist Party and the Soviet people, eminent military leader, CPSU Central Committee member, and USSR Supreme Soviet deputy.

...The Red Banner Hall of the M.V. Frunze Central House of the Soviet Army was in mourning. A coffin containing the body of S.G. Gorshkov lay there on a dais surrounded by fresh flowers. [passage omitted]

Comrades L.N. Zaykov and O.D. Baklanov came to take their leave of Admiral of the Fleet of the Soviet Union S.G. Gorshkov.

An honorary vigil was held next to the coffin by I.S. Belousov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; O.S. Belyakov, chief of a CPSU Central Committee department; leaders of a number of ministries and departments, and representatives of party and soviet organizations.

Mournful melodies played continuously. A sorrowful vigil was held near the coffin by Army General D.T. Yazov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of defense; Marshal of the Soviet Union S.F. Akhromeyev and Marshal of the Soviet Union V.G. Kulikov, USSR first deputy defense ministers; Army General A.D. Lizichev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate; and Fleet Admiral V.N. Chernavin, Army General V.M. Arkhipov, Army General V.M. Shabanov, Army General V.L. Govorov, and Army General D.S. Sukhorukov, USSR deputy defense ministers.

Representatives of the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces Staff and also military attaches at the socialist countries' embassies in the USSR came to pay a tribute of profound respect to the admiral of the fleet of the Soviet Union.

A funeral meeting devoted to the memory of Admiral of the Fleet of the Soviet Union S.G. Gorshkov was held at Novodevichye Cemetery. [passage omitted]

Obituary Signed

PM1905113788 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 May 88 Second Edition p 6

[Obituary of former USSR Navy Commander in Chief, Admiral of the Fleet of the Soviet Union S.G. Gorshkov]

[Text] Admiral of the Fleet of the Soviet Union Sergey Georgiyevich Gorshkov, CPSU Central Committee member, USSR Supreme Soviet deputy, and Twice Hero of the Soviet Union, died on 13 May 1988 in his 79th year after a long and serious illness. The USSR Armed Forces have lost an eminent military commander who made a big contribution to the building and development of the Soviet Navy.

S.G. Gorshkov was born on 26 February 1910 in Kamenets-Podolskiy, Khmelnitskiy Oblast, the son of a teacher. At the age of 17 he entered the M.V. Frunze Naval Academy and after graduation served on ships of the Black Sea and Pacific Fleets.

During the Great Patriotic War played he an active part in combat actions. He commanded the Azov and Danube military flotillas and a Black Sea Fleet squadron and was deputy commander of the Novorossiysk defense region. In 1948-1951 he was chief of staff and then commander of the Black Sea Fleet.

For around 30 years he was commander in chief of the Navy and a USSR deputy defense minister. He spent his last years doing important work at the USSR Defense Ministry. He had been in the CPSU since 1942.

In all the posts assigned to him by the party S.G. Gorshkov displayed organizational flair and profound knowledge of naval matters. He had an innate sense of innovation, a creative approach to work, and, in a combat situation, boldness, willpower, and courage. He produced scholarly works on the history of the Navy and its tactics and operational art.

His efficiency, his party principles, his exacting attitude to himself and his subordinates, and his concern for people won S.G. Gorshkov the deep respect of all those who knew and served with him.

S.G. Gorshkov was actively involved in the country's social and political life and had close connections with military and labor collectives and party organizations. At the 20th-27th party congresses he was elected candidate and then full member of the CPSU Central Committee and was deputy in a number of convocations of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

The Communist Party and the Soviet Government were highly appreciative of S.G. Gorshkov's services to the homeland. He was twice awarded the title Hero of the Soviet Union and received Orders of Lenin and many other state awards, as well as foreign states' orders and medals. He was a winner of Lenin and USSR State Prizes.

The bright memory of Sergey Georgiyevich Gorshkov, loyal son of the Communist Party and Soviet people, will remain forever in our hearts.

M.S. Gorbachev, V.I. Vorotnikov, A.A. Gromyko, L.N. Zaykov, Ye.K. Ligachev, V.P. Nikonov, N.I. Ryzhkov, N.N. Slyunkov, M.S. Solomentsev, V.M. Chebrikov, E.A. Shevardnadze, V.V. Shcherbitskiy, A.N. Yakovlev, P.N. Demichev, V.I. Dolgikh, Yu.D. Maslyukov, G.P. Razumovskiy, Yu.F. Solovyev, N.V. Talyzin, D.T. Yazov, O.D. Baklanov, A.P. Biryukova, A.F. Dobrynin, A.I. Lukyanov, V.A. Medvedev, I.V. Kapitonov, I.S. Belousov, I.V. Koksanov, B.K. Pugo, S.F. Akhromeyev, V.G. Kulikov, P.G. Lushev, A.D. Lizichev, Yu.P. Maksimov, Ye.F. Ivanovskiy, I.M. Tretyak, A.N. Yefimov, V.N. Chernavin, M.I. Sorokin, V.M. Arkhipov, V.M. Shabanov, N.F. Shestopalov, V.L. Govorov, D.S. Sukhorukov, G.M. Yegorov, A.I. Sorokin, V.I. Panin, I.M. Kapitanets, K.V. Makarov, F.N. Gromov, G.A. Khvatov, M.N. Khronopulo, V.P. Ivanov, S.L. Sokolov, S.K. Kurkotkin, V.I. Petrov, V.F. Tolubko, A.S. Zheltov, A.P. Silantyev, V.A. Kasatonov, N.D. Sergeyev, N.I. Smirnov, and V.M. Grishanov.